KID COLT

BLAZING ADVENTURES OF THE WILD WEST!!

KID COLT OUTLAW

ATLAS

NO. 26

10¢

Build a Fine Business...Full or Spare Time!

I'll Put a "Shoe Store Business" in Your Pocket!

You Don't Invest a Cent!
I Furnish Everything Free!

Want to have lots of money in your pocket — always? Then rush the coupon below and start toward your own business. In many ways it's better than a retail store of your own! I plan to give it to you absolutely FREE. You don't invest a penny now or ever! Be in this highly profitable business QUICK.

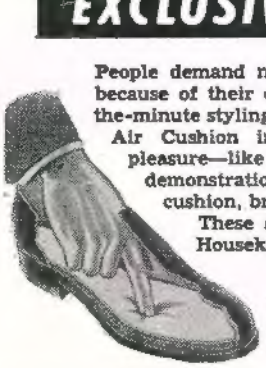
HERE'S WHY IT'S BETTER!

As the direct factory man handling the quick selling line of this 47-year old, million-dollar company you have a limitless market, because everybody wears shoes. Start by selling to relatives, friends, neighbors. That will prove the fine quality leathers—superb craftsmanship—money-saving value—and unequalled comfort-fit! Then branch out on a big scale.

It's easy to fit folks in the exact style they want—no need to substitute—you draw on our huge factory stock of over 175,000 pairs plus huge daily factory production.

Sales build up from friend to friend quickly, like a snowball. Recommendations, repeat orders and new customers build you a big income in a surprisingly short time. No wonder some of our top Shoe Counselors make from $5 to $10 every hour they spend taking orders!

EXCLUSIVE FEATURES



People demand nationally advertised Mason Shoes because of their exclusive comfort features, up-to-the-minute styling. Foamy-soft exclusive Velvet-Eez Air Cushion innersole makes walking a real pleasure—like "walking on air!" Ten-second demonstration lets customer actually feel air cushion, brings quick sales!

These splendid shoes bear famous Good Housekeeping Guarantee Seal.

Velvet-eez

MASON SHOE MFG. CO.
Dept. MA-64 CHIPPEWA FALLS, WISC.

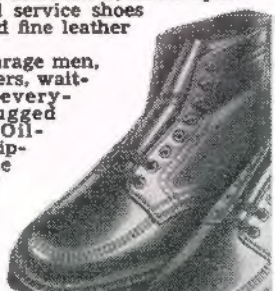
BIG, STEADY PROFITS FOR YOU — NO OVERHEAD!

That's right! You have all the advantages of a profitable shoe store business *without* the expenses of rent, light, heat, etc. You are independent and invest nothing but your time. Your generous profit is ALL YOURS! No wonder Mason men are making more money than ever before. Even if you start in spare time, you will soon want to devote full time to this steady, repeat-order big-income business!

No Experience Needed... Make Money First Hour!

You need no experience to make money right away. Some men have made up to 20 sales their first day. You feature 151 styles of smart dress shoes, casual sport shoes, and practical work and service shoes for men and women, boots and fine leather jackets, too.

Sell to service station and garage men, waiters, factory workers, barbers, waitresses, nurses, housewives—everybody! Such features as Rugged Horsehide Shoes, Neoprene Oil-Resistant Soles, Gro-Cork Slip-Resistant Soles, Steel Safety Toe shoes make Mason Shoes easy to sell.



SEND NOW!

I have a powerful Selling Outfit I'm going to send you absolutely FREE as soon as I receive your coupon. This outfit includes actual 10-second demonstrator, famous Automatic Selling Plan, and features exclusive Velvet-Eez Air-Cushion shoes, fine leather jackets—other fast-selling specialties. To take advantage of this opportunity of your life, rush me the coupon below NOW! You'll be glad you did!

SEND FOR FREE OUTFIT

Mr. Ned Mason, Sales Manager
Mason Shoe Mfg. Co., Dept. MA-64
Chippewa Falls, Wisc.

Please put a "Shoe Store Business" in my pocket by rushing FREE and postpaid your Powerful Selling Outfit—so I can start making Big Money my very first hour!

Name .....

Age .....

Address .....

Town..... State.....

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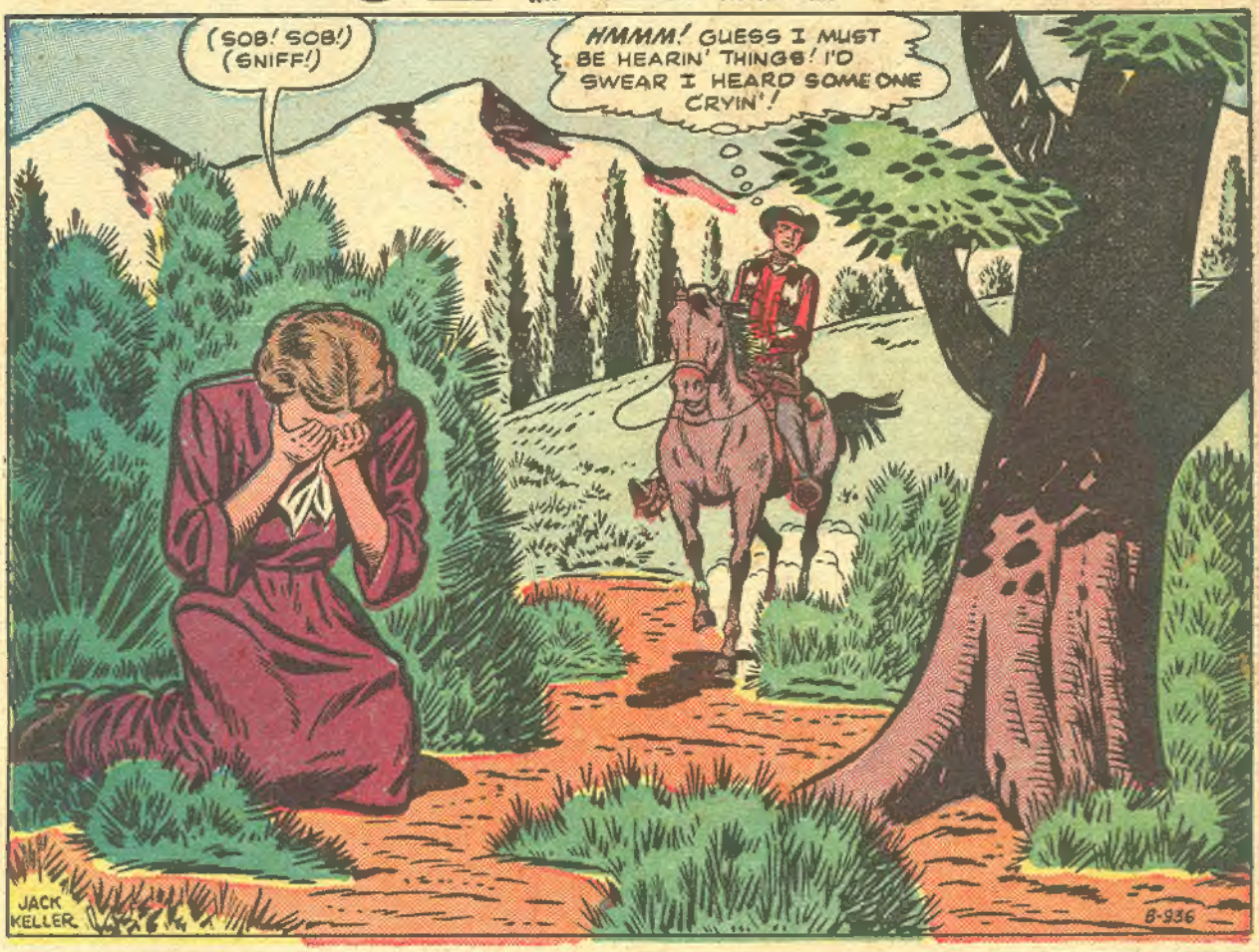
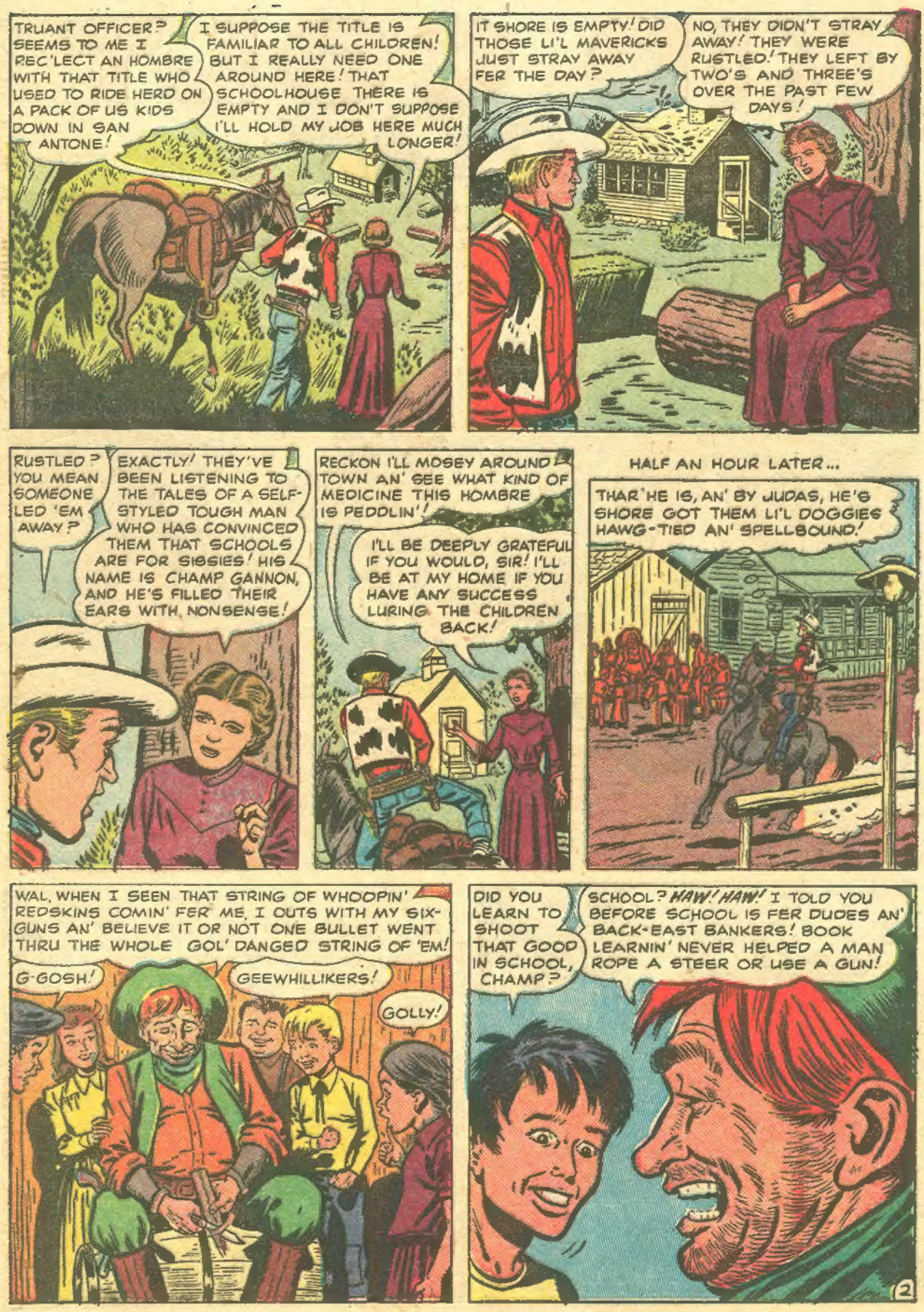
KID COLT OUTLAW



MEBBE IT'S NONE OF MY BUSINESS, MISS, BUT IF I CAN HELP YOU SOMEHOW, I'D BE MORE'N GRATEFUL TO TRY!
N-NO, THANKS! I DON'T SUPPOSE ANYONE CAN HELP ME EXCEPT A TRUANT OFFICER, AND THEY DON'T HAVE ONE IN THIS TERRITORY!


TRUANT OFFICER? SEEMS TO ME I REC'LECT AN HOMBRE WITH THAT TITLE WHO USED TO RIDE HERD ON A PACK OF US KIDS DOWN IN SAN ANTONE!
I SUPPOSE THE TITLE IS FAMILIAR TO ALL CHILDREN! BUT I REALLY NEED ONE AROUND HERE! THAT SCHOOLHOUSE THERE IS EMPTY AND I DON'T SUPPOSE I'LL HOLD MY JOB HERE MUCH LONGER!
IT SHORE IS EMPTY! DID THOSE LI'L MAVERICKS JUST STRAY AWAY FER THE DAY?
NO, THEY DIDN'T STRAY AWAY! THEY WERE RUSTLED! THEY LEFT BY TWO'S AND THREE'S OVER THE PAST FEW DAYS!
RUSTLED? YOU MEAN SOMEONE LED 'EM AWAY?
EXACTLY! THEY'VE BEEN LISTENING TO THE TALES OF A SELF-STYLED TOUGH MAN WHO HAS CONVINCED THEM THAT SCHOOLS ARE FOR SISSIES! HIS NAME IS CHAMP GANNON, AND HE'S FILLED THEIR EARS WITH NONSENSE!
RECKON I'LL MOSEY AROUND TOWN AN' SEE WHAT KIND OF MEDICINE THIS HOMBRE IS PEDDLIN'!
I'LL BE DEEPLY GRATEFUL IF YOU WOULD, SIR! I'LL BE AT MY HOME IF YOU HAVE ANY SUCCESS LURING THE CHILDREN BACK!
HALF AN HOUR LATER...
THAR HE IS, AN' BY JUDAS, HE'S SHORE GOT THEM LI'L DOGGIES HAWG-TIED AN' SPELLBOUND!
WAL, WHEN I SEEN THAT STRING OF WHOOPIN' REDSKINS COMIN' FER ME, I OUTS WITH MY SIX-GUNS AN' BELIEVE IT OR NOT ONE BULLET WENT THRU THE WHOLE GOL' DANGED STRING OF 'EM!
G-GOSH!
GEEWHILLIKERS!
GOLLY!
DID YOU LEARN TO SHOOT THAT GOOD IN SCHOOL, CHAMP?
SCHOOL? HAW! HAW! I TOLD YOU BEFORE SCHOOL IS FER DUDES AN' BACK-EAST BANKERS! BOOK LEARNIN' NEVER HELPED A MAN ROPE A STEER OR USE A GUN!
2

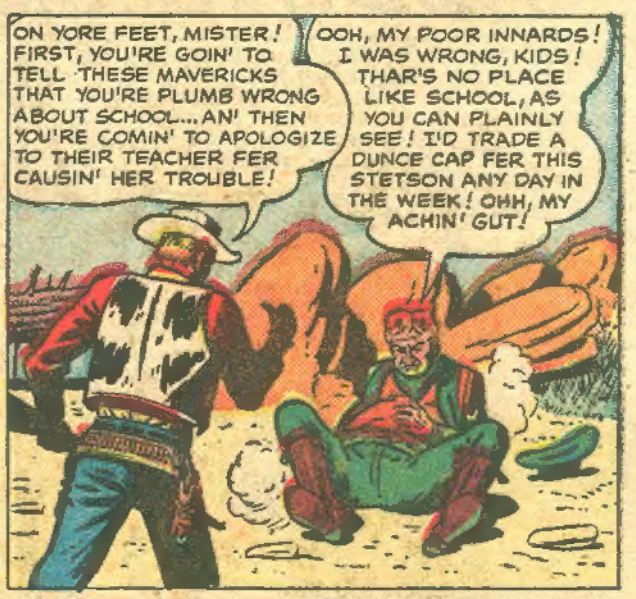
YESSIRREE! WHEN I WAS A LI'L SHAVER MY PA'S LAST WORDS TO ME WERE... "THERE'S ONLY THREE R'S TO LEARN, SON... RIDIN', ROPIN' AN' RUSTLIN'"... AN' THEN THEY HUNG HIM FROM A TALL COTTONWOOD! (SNIFF! SNIFF!)
TSK! TSK! GOSH, WE'RE NEVER GOING BACK TO SCHOOL AGAIN, CHAMP! YOU SURE PUT US STRAIGHT!
HOWDY, AMIGO! SEEMS TO ME I'VE SEEN YORE FACE BEFORE!
LIKE AS NOT YOU HAVE, STRANGER! I SEEN MY PICTURE NAILED TO SOME TREES ON THE TRAIL! RECKON THE FOLKS HEREABOUTS THINK A LOT OF ME!
YEP! THEY'RE SO PROUD OF YUH THAT THEY GOT A REWARD OF FIVE HUNNERT DOLLARS WAITIN' FER THE MAN WHO BRINGS YOU IN!
WAIT A MINUTE, STRANGER! I DIDN'T SEE NOTHIN' ON THEM POSTERS ABOUT A REWARD! ARE YOU PULLIN' MY LAIG?
YOU MUST BE PULLIN' MY LEG, AMIGO! CAN'T YOU EVEN READ A REWARD POSTER?
W-WAL, SURE.. I M-MEAN... NO! I... M-MEAN I DIDN'T PAY NO MIND TO THE PRINTING ON THEM! DON'T GO GETTIN' UPPITY JUS' BECAUSE YOU CAN READ BETTER'N ME!
NOT ONLY CAN I READ BETTER'N YOU, BUT I CAN DO EVERYTHING ELSE BETTER! I LEARNED A HEAP OF THINGS IN SCHOOL THAT CAME IN USEFUL LATER ON!
MISTER, YOU'RE TALKIN' THRU A SWELLED-UP STETSON! LET'S SEE IF THEY LEARNED YUH ANYTHING ABOUT USIN' SIX-GUNS IN SCHOOL" DRAW!
WHAT THE?
RECKON I GO TO THE HEAD OF THE CLASS AN' YOU GET THE BIG DUNCE CAP!
WAL, MEBBESO YUH CAN UNSWIVEL THEM GUNS OF YORE'N FAST, BUT THAT DON'T MEAN YOU KIN USE 'EM!
I'D BET A CARTWHEEL TO A 'DOBE PESO I'LL OUT-GUN YOU, TOO! LET'S HAVE A FRIENDLY SHOOTIN' MATCH OUTSIDE OF TOWN! COME ON, KIDS! WE'LL SEE WHAT SCHOOLIN' CAN DO AGAINST A HOOKY PLAYER!
3

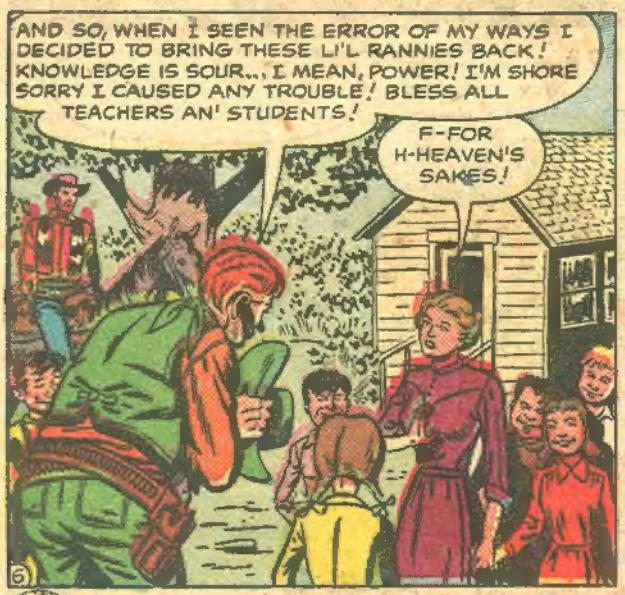
ABOUT A MILE OUTSIDE TOWN...
WE'LL USE A SIX-GUN ON THAT BUZZARD YONDER! THE IDEA IS TO SCARE HIM OFF THE LIMB FIRST AND THEN SHOOT HIM ON THE WING!
IT'S YORE IDEA, STRANGER! YOU SHOOT FIRST!
I'LL TAKE A PIECE OF THAT LIMB OFF FROM UNDER HIM AN' THEN TAKE THE BIRD!
QUIT BLABBERIN' LIKE A SIDE-SHOW BARKER AN' START MISSIN'!
FLAP!
SQWUAAAAAK!
FLAP!
G-GOSH!
WOWEEEE! SOME SHOOTIN'!
WHRAM!
TRY YORE LUCK ON THAT OTHER BUZZARD ROOSTIN' ON THE CACTUS YONDER!
WHY, SHORE! I'LL BLAST HIM OFF THAT CACTUS SO FAST HE'LL BE STANDIN' ON AIR WITHOUT FLAPPIN' HIS WINGS!
M-MISSED BOTH SHOTS! KEEP TRYING, CHAMP!
WHRAM!
WHRAM!
DAD BLAST THAT CONSARNED BUZZARD! I RECKON HE MUST BE HANGIN' ON THERE WITHOUT KNOWIN' HE'S DEAD! WHY DON'T HE FALL?
BECAUSE YOU DIDN'T HIT HIM YET!
WHRAM!
WHRAM!
WHRAM!
WHRAM!
WHRAM!
4

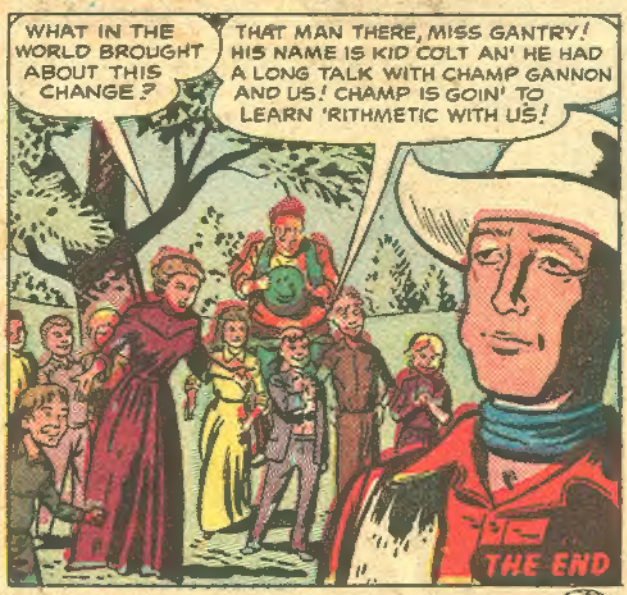
H-HE CAN'T F-FLY! HE'S LOADED D-DOWN WITH L-LEAD!
HE'S FLYIN' AN' HE'S GOT NO LEAD IN HIM! YOU JUST DON'T KNOW YORE GUNS OR WHAT THEY'LL DO AT FIFTY YARDS! IT'S JUST A SIMPLE MATTER OF ARITHMETIC!
THERE'S TWENTY EIGHT GRAINS OF BLACK POWDER BEHIND THIS BULLET, AND THE BULLET WEIGHS 230 GRAINS! THIS BULLET KICKS OUT OF YORE GUN DOIN' BETTER THAN 730 FEET A SECOND!
WHAT'S THAT GOT TO DO WITH THE BUZZARD?
PLENTY! AT FIFTY YARDS THAT BULLET DROPS TWO INCHES AND IS OFF ABOUT THREE INCHES MORE LEFT OR RIGHT! IF YOU DON'T KNOW YORE GUN, YUH MIGHT AS WELL THROW IT AWAY!
I CAN DO BETTER WITH A WINCHESTER ANY-WAY! MY COLTS DO THEIR TALKIN' BETWEEN TEN AND THIRTY YARDS, BUT MY 44-40 WILL SPIT A LONG WAY!
G-GOSH, MISTER! YOU SURE KNOW A LOT ABOUT GUNS AN' WHAT THEY'LL DO!
WAL, I LEARNED ALL THE 'RITHMETIC I COULD IN SCHOOL! THERE'S NOTHING A MAN CAN'T DO IF HE KNOWS HIS READIN', WRITING AND FIGURES!
SEE THAT GOPHER YONDER? LET'S SEE YOU KICK DIRT IN HIS FACE WITHOUT HITTIN' HIM!
THIS IS MY MEAT! I'LL BURY THAT CRITTER IN DIRT! THAT'S ABOUT TWO HUNNERT YARDS, HUH? YOU'RE LOOKIN' AT A DEAD PRAIRIE DOG!
G-GOSH! HE M-MISSED!
CRAAACK!
IF I DIDN'T HIT HIM, YOU AIN'T GOIN' TO EITHER!
I AIN'T AIMIN' TO HIT HIM! I'LL JUST COVER HIM WITH DIRT!
5

IF YOU'D READ THE INSTRUCTIONS CAME WITH THAT GUN OF YOURS, YOU'D KNOW THAT A 200 GRAIN BULLET HITS 1300 FEET A SECOND AND DROPS 18 INCHES AT TWO HUNNERT YARDS!
BAH! YOU'RE JUST PLUMB LUCKY, STRANGER! I GOT A GOOD MIND TO TEACH YOU A FEW LESSONS, AN' I THINK I WILL!

DOWN IN SAN ANTONE I HAD A TEACHER USED TO TAKE A HICKORY SWITCH TO ME EVERY SO OFTEN... AN' PURTY SOON I LEARNED TO DUCK IT MIGHTY FAST... LIKE THIS!
OOOOOF!


ON YORE FEET, MISTER! FIRST, YOU'RE GOIN' TO TELL THESE MAVERICKS THAT YOU'RE PLUMB WRONG ABOUT SCHOOL... AN' THEN YOU'RE COMIN' TO APOLOGIZE TO THEIR TEACHER FER CAUSIN' HER TROUBLE!
OOH, MY POOR INNARDS! I WAS WRONG, KIDS! THAR'S NO PLACE LIKE SCHOOL, AS YOU CAN PLAINLY SEE! I'D TRADE A DUNCE CAP FER THIS STETSON ANY DAY IN THE WEEK! OHH, MY ACHIN' GUT!


AND SO, WHEN I SEEN THE ERROR OF MY WAYS I DECIDED TO BRING THESE LI'L RANNIES BACK! KNOWLEDGE IS SOUR... I MEAN, POWER! I'M SHORE SORRY I CAUSED ANY TROUBLE! BLESS ALL TEACHERS AN' STUDENTS!
F-FOR H-HEAVEN'S SAKES!
5


WHAT IN THE WORLD BROUGHT ABOUT THIS CHANGE?
THAT MAN THERE, MISS GANTRY! HIS NAME IS KID COLT AN' HE HAD A LONG TALK WITH CHAMP GANNON AND US! CHAMP IS GOIN' TO LEARN 'RITHMETIC WITH US!
THE END

ATLAS FOR THE BEST IN WESTERN THRILLS LOOK FOR THE ATLAS SEAL ON THE COVER! ATLAS

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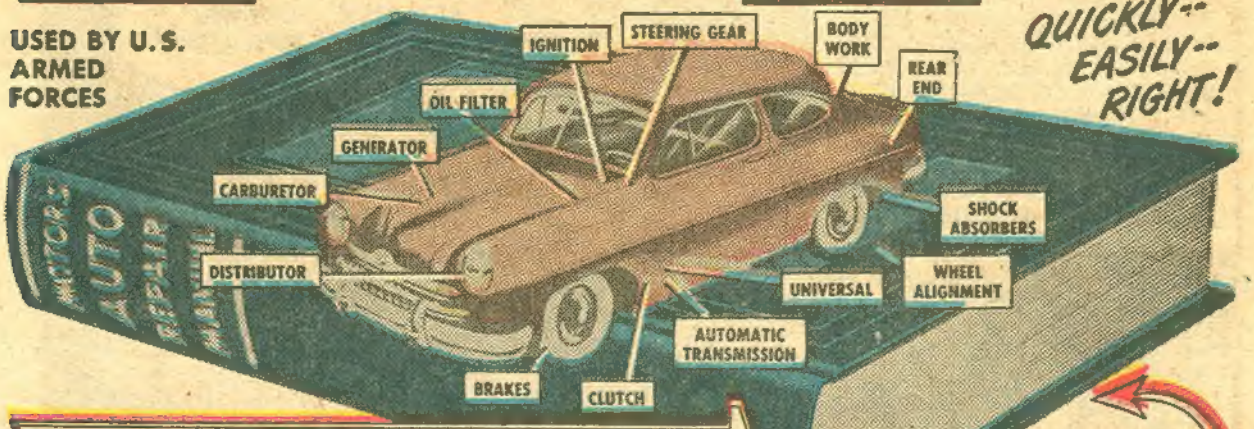
USED BY U.S. ARMED FORCES

QUICKLY-- EASILY-- RIGHT!



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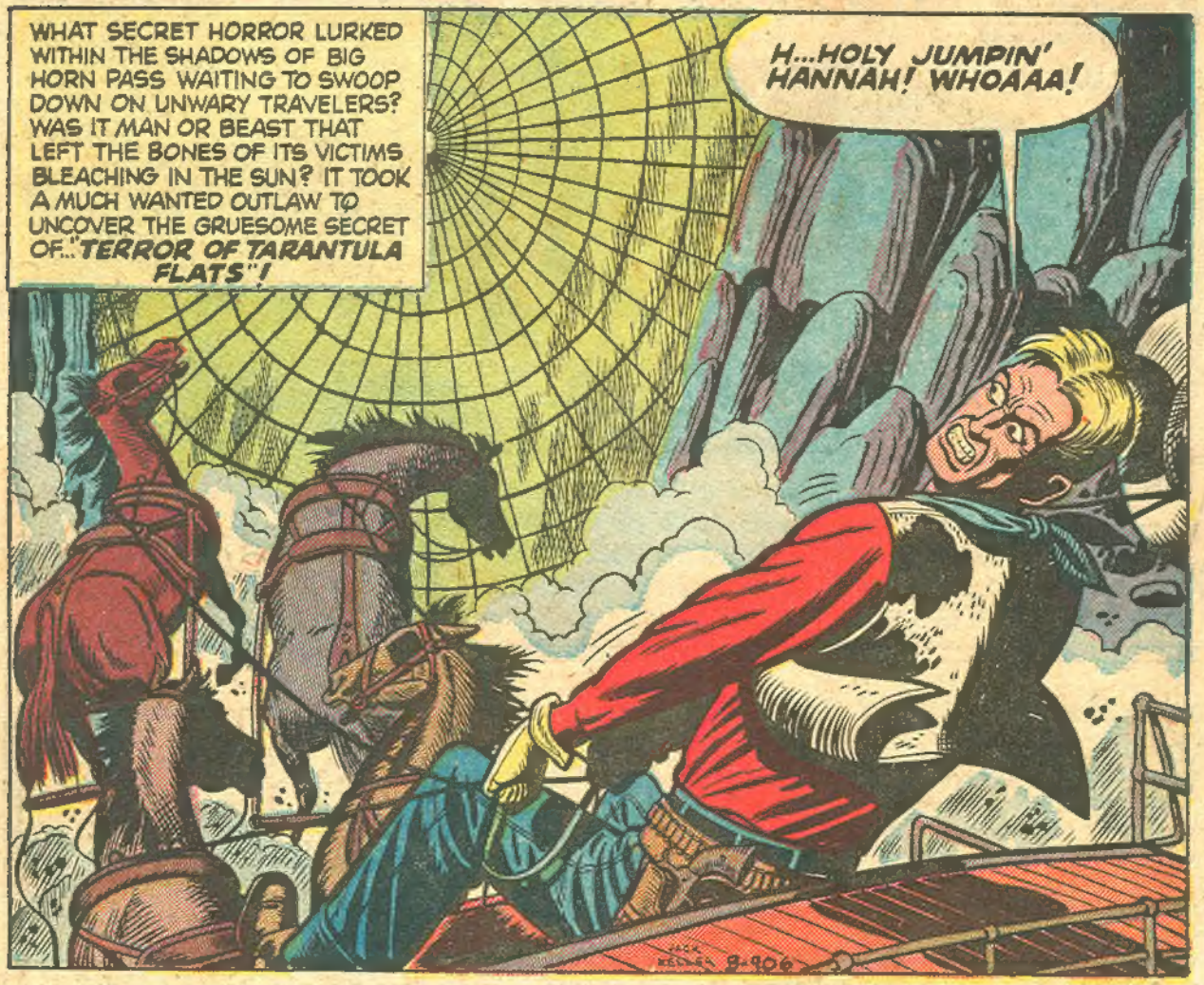
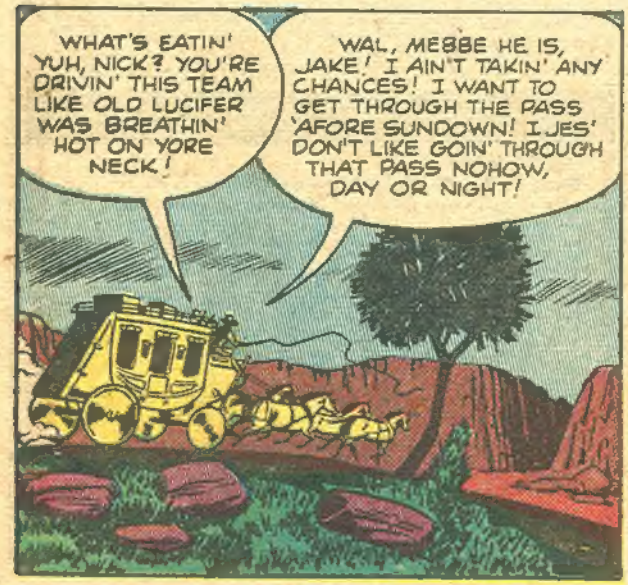
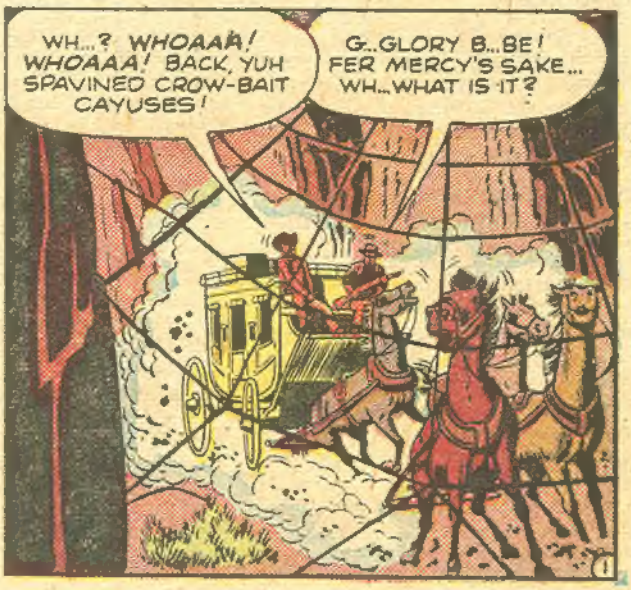

WHAT SECRET HORROR LURKED WITHIN THE SHADOWS OF BIG HORN PASS WAITING TO SWOOP DOWN ON UNWARY TRAVELERS? WAS IT MAN OR BEAST THAT LEFT THE BONES OF ITS VICTIMS BLEACHING IN THE SUN? IT TOOK A MUCH WANTED OUTLAW TO UNCOVER THE GRUESOME SECRET OF..."TERROR OF TARANTULA FLATS"!
H...HOLY JUMPIN' HANNAH! WHOAAA!

THE SAGE CITY STAGE RUMBLED ACROSS TARANTULA FLATS MAKING TIME ON ITS WEEKLY RUN TO TUCSON...


WHAT'S EATIN' YUH, NICK? YOU'RE DRIVIN' THIS TEAM LIKE OLD LUCIFER WAS BREATHIN' HOT ON YORE NECK!
WAL, MEBBE HE IS, JAKE! I AIN'T TAKIN' ANY CHANCES! I WANT TO GET THROUGH THE PASS 'AFORE SUNDOWN! I JES' DON'T LIKE GOIN' THROUGH THAT PASS NOHOW, DAY OR NIGHT!

THE TEAM ROARED INTO THE PASS, THUNDERED DOWN THE STRAIGHTWAY, AND SUDDENLY...



BUT IT WAS TOO LATE! TEAM, STAGE AND OCCUPANTS PILED UP IN THE GRUESOME WEB IN A TANGLE OF TERROR AND PANIC

HELLLP!

CRASH

THE HORSES SAW THE HIDEOUS MONSTER FIRST AND SCREAMED IN TERROR! THE MEN SAW IT NEXT AND THEIR BLOOD FROZE IN THEIR VEINS...

IT WAS ALL OVER IN SECONDS AS THE SHADOW OF THE THING ENVELOPED THEM...

NO..NO! AIIEEE!

MEANWHILE A LONE RIDER FELT A CHILL OF FOREBODING AS HE TOPPED A RISE ON A NEARBY RIDGE

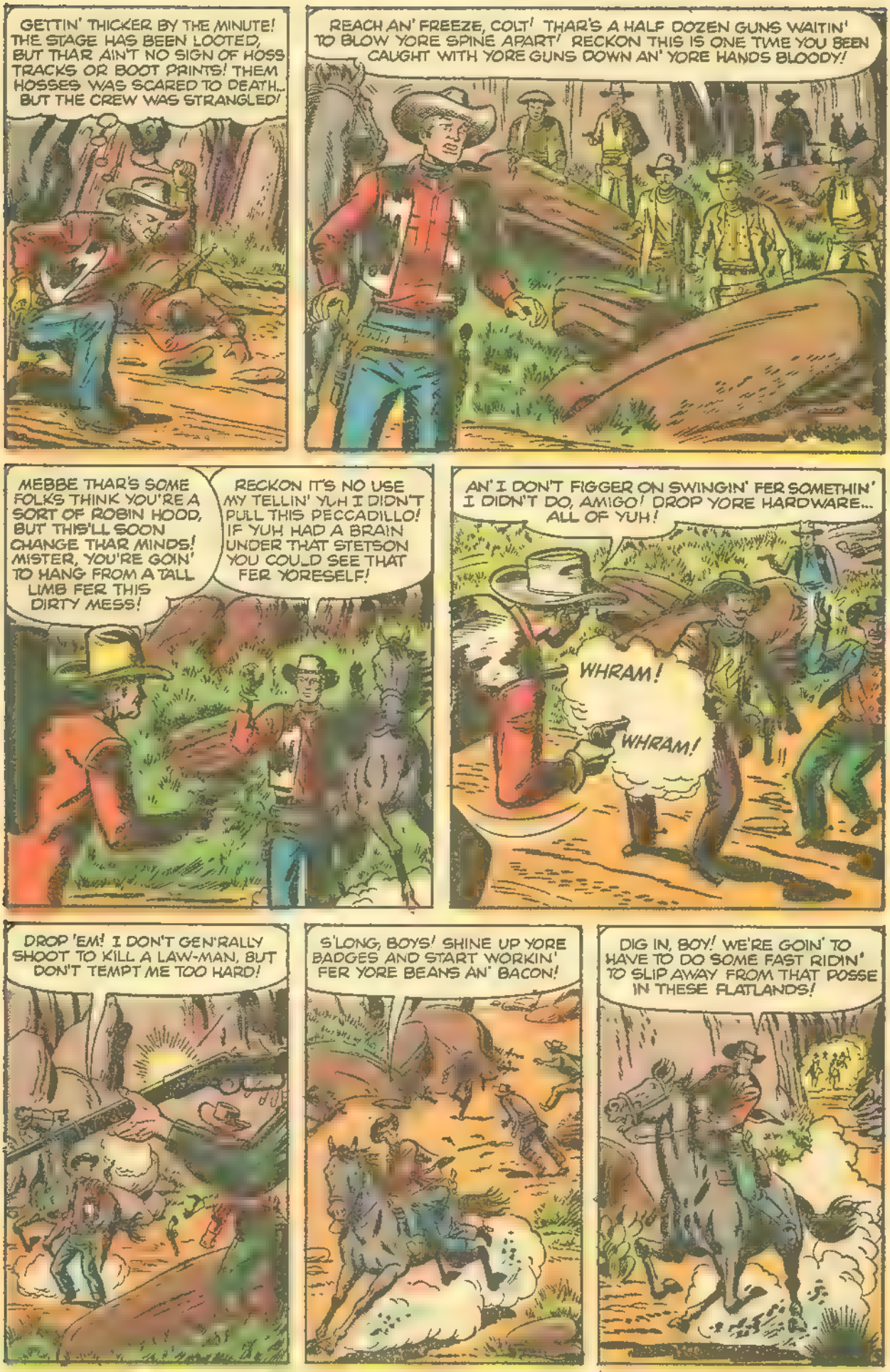
BRRR! SOMETHIN' SHORE GIVES ME THE CREEPS AROUND HERE! THAT SCREAM I HEARD A WHILE BACK SOUNDED LIKE IT CAME FROM THE PASS YONDER!

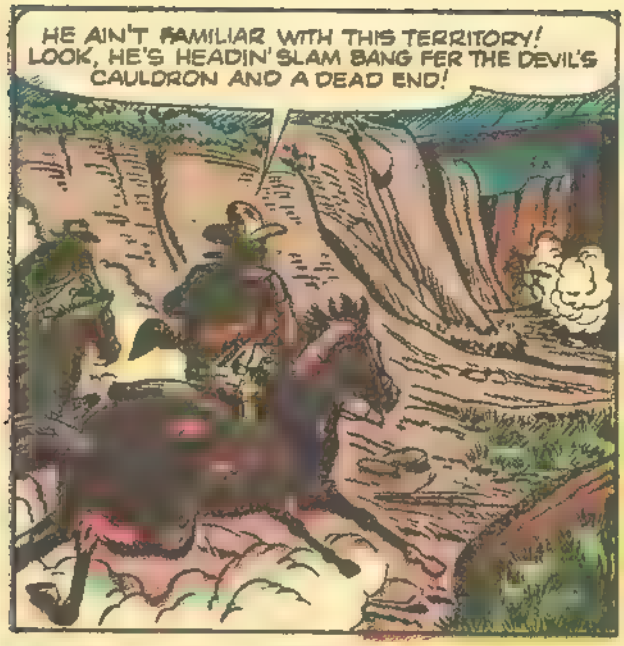
I'VE HEARD PLENTY OF WILD CATS HOWLIN' BUT THAT DIDN'T SOUND LIKE ONE! I OUGHT TO RIDE THE OTHER WAY, BUT I'M PLUMB CURIOUS ABOUT THAT SHRIEK!

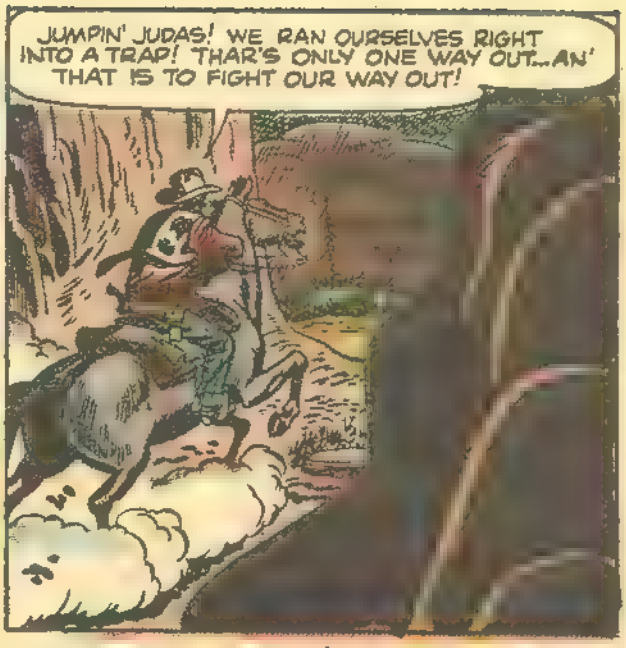
MINUTES LATER...

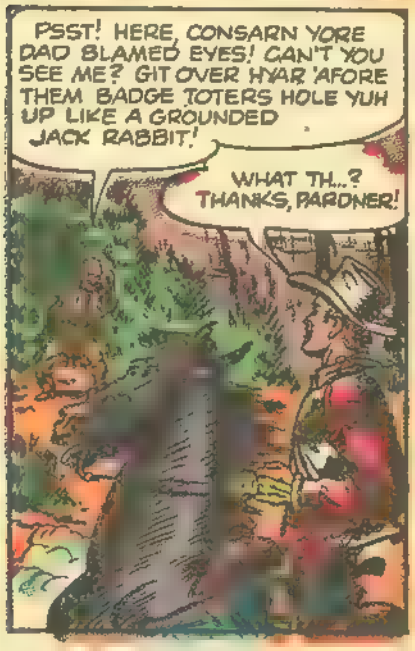
WH ? WAIT A MINUTE! THAT'S A STAGECOACH PILED UP YONDER OR I MISS MY GUESS!

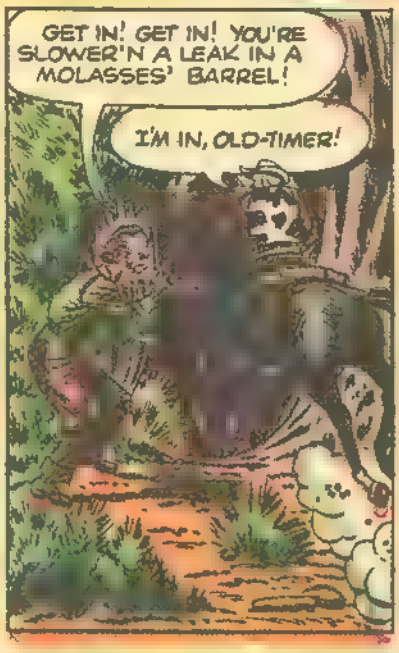
BELLOWIN' BULLFROGS! WHATEVER HIT THAT STAGE HIT IT HARD AND DIRTY! FUNNY.. I GET A FEELIN' SOMETHING'S WATCHIN' ME!

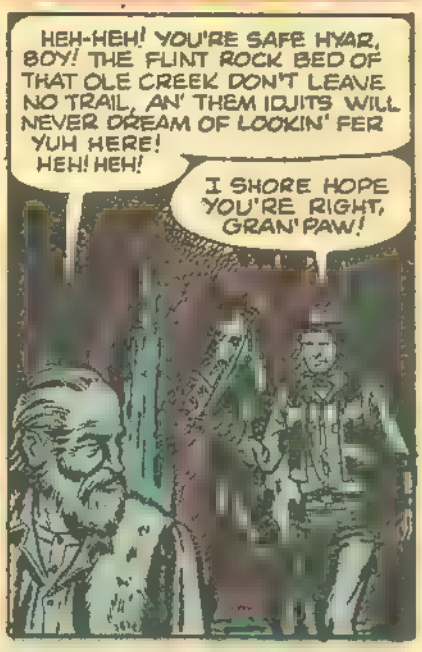

GETTIN' THICKER BY THE MINUTE! THE STAGE HAS BEEN LOOTED, BUT THAR AIN'T NO SIGN OF HOSS TRACKS OR BOOT PRINTS! THEM HOSSES WAS SCARED TO DEATH... BUT THE CREW WAS STRANGLED!
REACH AN' FREEZE, COLT! THAR'S A HALF DOZEN GUNS WAITIN' TO BLOW YORE SPINE APART! RECKON THIS IS ONE TIME YOU BEEN CAUGHT WITH YORE GUNS DOWN AN' YORE HANDS BLOODY!
MEBBE THAR'S SOME FOLKS THINK YOU'RE A SORT OF ROBIN HOOD, BUT THIS'LL SOON CHANGE THAR MINDS! MISTER, YOU'RE GOIN' TO HANG FROM A TALL LIMB FER THIS DIRTY MESS!
RECKON IT'S NO USE MY TELLIN' YUH I DIDN'T PULL THIS PECCADILLO! IF YUH HAD A BRAIN UNDER THAT STETSON YOU COULD SEE THAT FER YORESELF!
AN' I DON'T FIGGER ON SWINGIN' FER SOMETHIN' I DIDN'T DO, AMIGO! DROP YORE HARDWARE... ALL OF YUH!
WHRAM!
WHRAM!
DROP 'EM! I DON'T GEN'RALLY SHOOT TO KILL A LAW-MAN, BUT DON'T TEMPT ME TOO HARD!
S'LONG, BOYS! SHINE UP YORE BADGES AND START WORKIN' FER YORE BEANS AN' BACON!
DIG IN, BOY! WE'RE GOIN' TO HAVE TO DO SOME FAST RIDIN' TO SLIP AWAY FROM THAT POSSE IN THESE FLATLANDS!






PSST! HERE, CONSARN YORE DAD BLAMED EYES! CAN'T YOU SEE ME? GIT OVER HYAR 'AFORE THEM BADGE TOTERS HOLE YUH UP LIKE A GROUNDED JACK RABBIT!
WHAT TH...? THANKS, PARDNER!



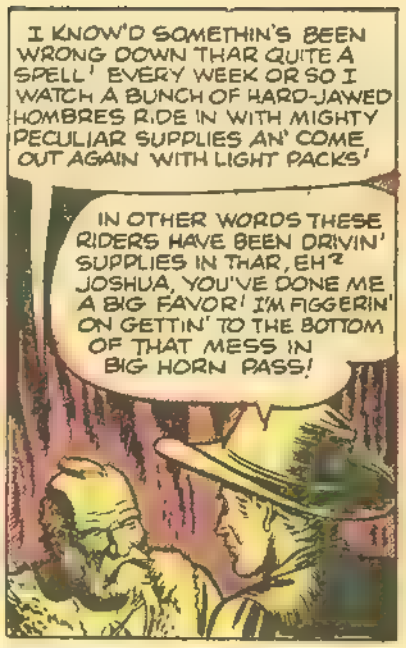

HEH-HEH! YOU'RE SAFE HYAR, BOY! THE FLINT ROCK BED OF THAT OLE CREEK DON'T LEAVE NO TRAIL, AN' THEM IQUITS WILL NEVER DREAM OF LOOKIN' FER YUH HERE! HEH! HEH!
I SHORE HOPE YOU'RE RIGHT, GRAN'PAW!

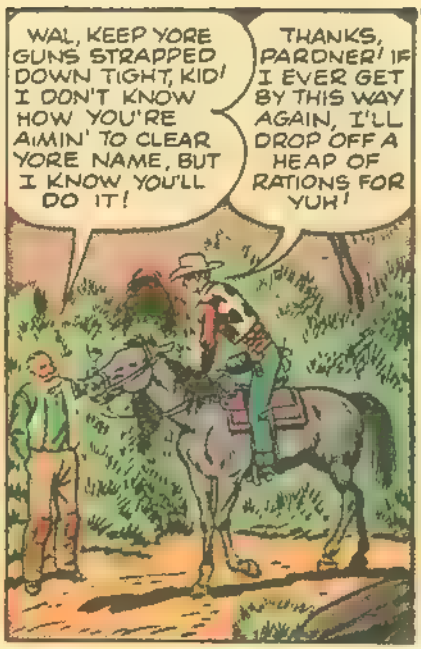
BY JUPITER, HE SHORE GAVE US THE SLIP! NOT EVEN A WEASEL COULD FIND AN EXIT IN THIS HOLE!
A WEASEL WOULD BE A HEAP EASIER TO CORNER THAN THAT LEAD-SLINGIN' HOMBRE! MIGHT AS WELL RIDE BACK TO TOWN AN' REPORT THE STAGE!

INSIDE THE CAVERN THE OUTLAW UNFOLDED HIS STORY TO CURIOUS EARS...

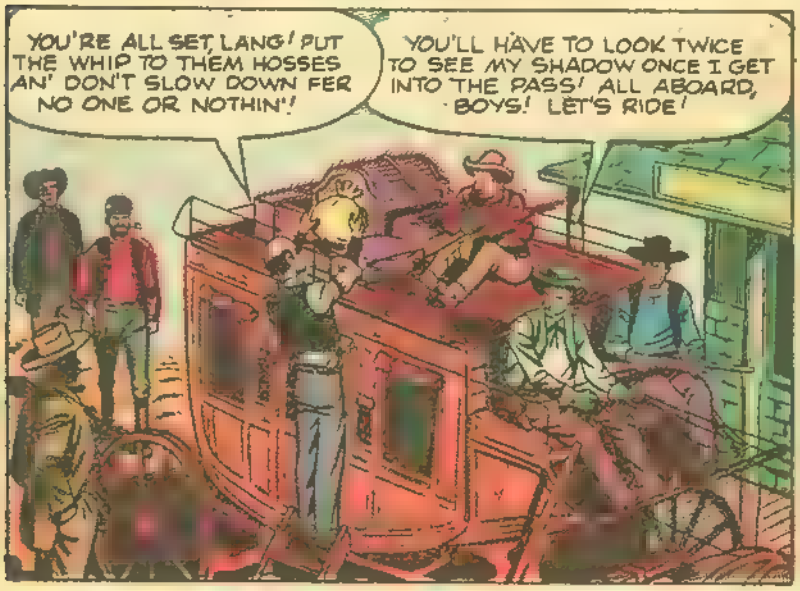
THAT'S THE STORY, JOSHUA! I'VE SEEN SOME WEIRD KILLINGS IN MY DAY, BUT NONE MORE SCARY AN' AWFUL THAN THE MESS IN BIG HORN PASS!
WAL, I BEEN AROUND AWHILE, TOO, YOUNG FELLER! MEN CALL THEIRSELVES HUMAN BEINGS, BUT JUDGIN' FROM THE THINGS SOME OF 'EM DO, THE ANIMALS GOT IT ALL OVER US FER DECENCY!

I GOT NO USE FER HUMANS... GAVE 'EM UP A LONG TIME AGO! MY CONSCIENCE BEEN A-BOTHERIN' ME LATELY THOUGH, AN' IT'S ON ACCOUNT OF THE GOIN'S ON DOWN IN THE PASS!
YOU KNOW SOMETHIN' ABOUT THE PASS?

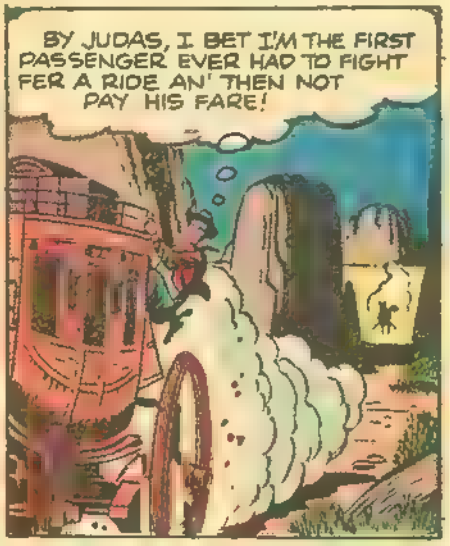

I KNOW'D SOMETHIN'S BEEN WRONG DOWN THAR QUITE A SPELL! EVERY WEEK OR SO I WATCH A BUNCH OF HARD-JAWED HOMBRES RIDE IN WITH MIGHTY PECULIAR SUPPLIES AN' COME OUT AGAIN WITH LIGHT PACKS!
IN OTHER WORDS THESE RIDERS HAVE BEEN DRIVIN' SUPPLIES IN THAR, EH? JOSHUA, YOU'VE DONE ME A BIG FAVOR! I'M FIGGERIN' ON GETTIN' TO THE BOTTOM OF THAT MESS IN BIG HORN PASS!

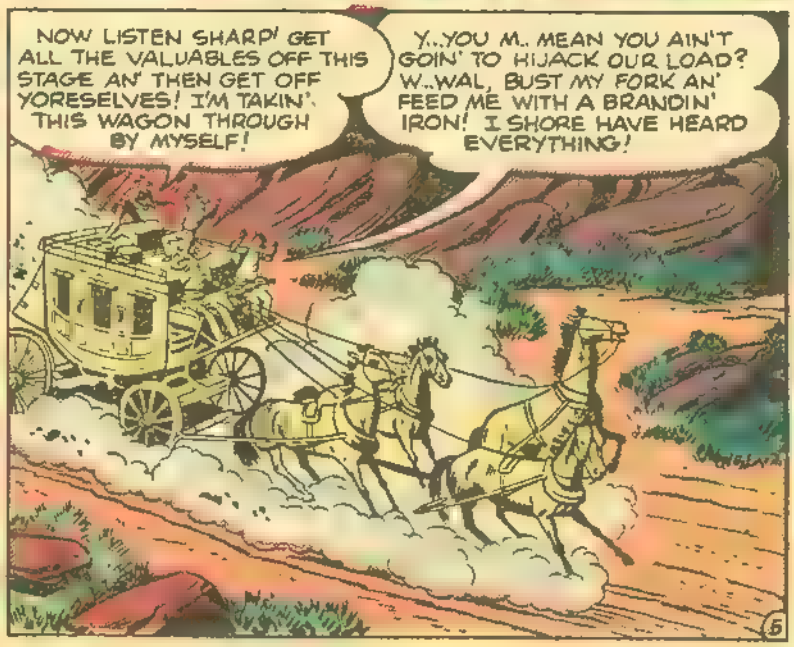

WAL, KEEP YORE GUNS STRAPPED DOWN TIGHT, KID! I DON'T KNOW HOW YOU'RE AIMIN' TO CLEAR YORE NAME, BUT I KNOW YOU'LL DO IT!
THANKS, PARDNER! IF I EVER GET BY THIS WAY AGAIN, I'LL DROP OFF A HEAP OF RATIONS FOR YUH!

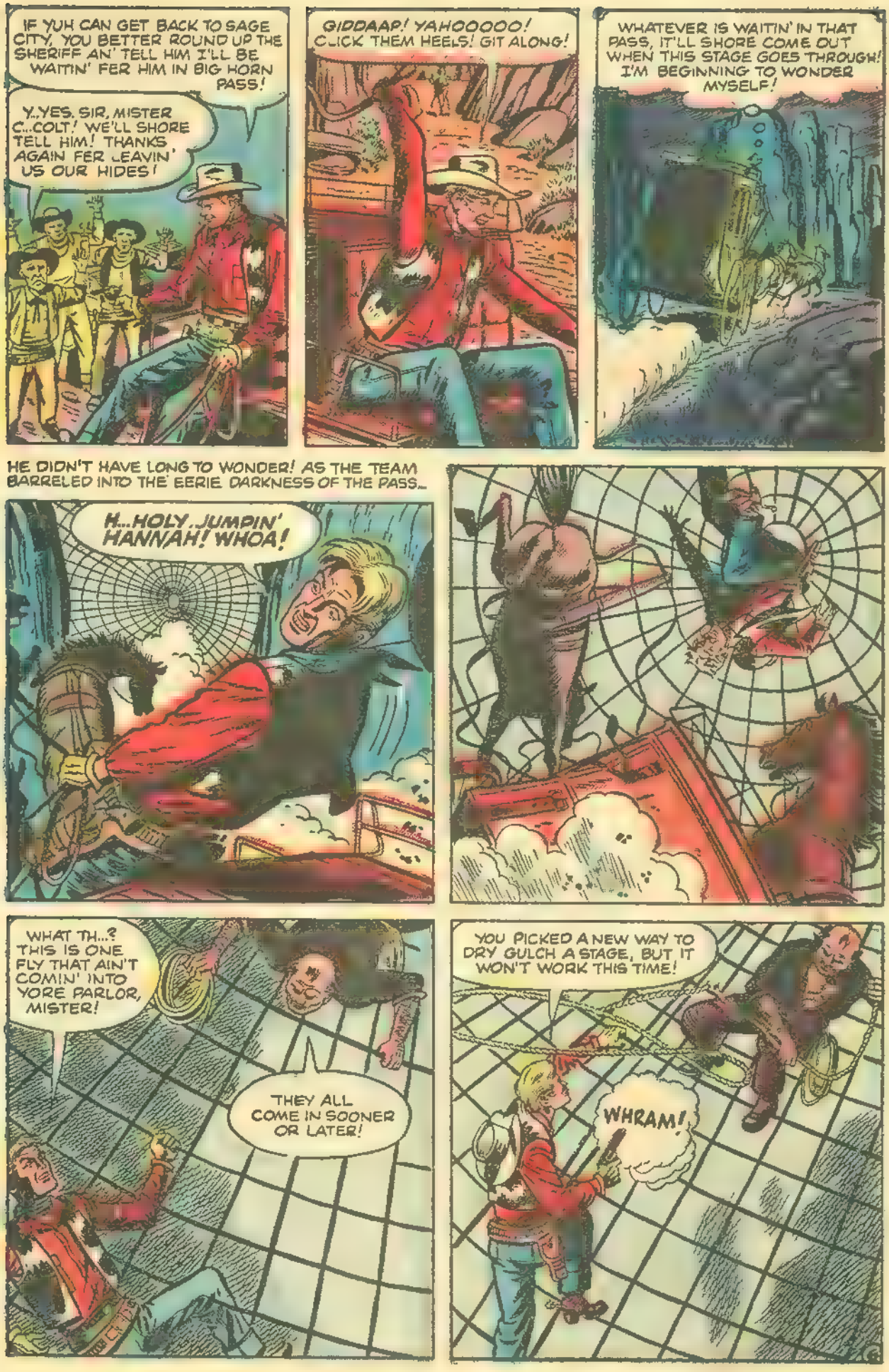
AT DUSK THE NEXT EVENING, THE TUCSON STAGE PREPARED FOR ITS RUN ACROSS TARANTULA FLATS.


YOU'RE ALL SET, LANG! PUT THE WHIP TO THEM HOSSES AN' DON'T SLOW DOWN FER NO ONE OR NOTHIN'!
YOU'LL HAVE TO LOOK TWICE TO SEE MY SHADOW ONCE I GET INTO THE PASS! ALL ABOARD, BOYS! LET'S RIDE!

THE STAGE THUNDERED OUT OF SAGE CITY, BUT BY THE TIME IT REACHED BUZZARD ROCK, AN UNINVITED PASSENGER WAS SCRAMBLING ABOARD.




NOW LISTEN SHARP! GET ALL THE VALUABLES OFF THIS STAGE AN' THEN GET OFF YORESELVES! I'M TAKIN' THIS WAGON THROUGH BY MYSELF!
Y..YOU M.. MEAN YOU AIN'T GOIN' TO HIJACK OUR LOAD? W..WAL, BUST MY FORK AN' FEED ME WITH A BRANDIN' IRON! I SHORE HAVE HEARD EVERYTHING!


IF YUH CAN GET BACK TO SAGE CITY, YOU BETTER ROUND UP THE SHERIFF AN' TELL HIM I'LL BE WAITIN' FER HIM IN BIG HORN PASS!
Y..YES, SIR, MISTER C...COLT! WE'LL SHORE TELL HIM! THANKS AGAIN FER LEAVIN' US OUR HIDES!
GIDDAAP! YAHOOOOO! CLICK THEM HEELS! GIT ALONG!
WHATEVER IS WAITIN' IN THAT PASS, IT'LL SHORE COME OUT WHEN THIS STAGE GOES THROUGH! I'M BEGINNING TO WONDER MYSELF!
HE DIDN'T HAVE LONG TO WONDER! AS THE TEAM BARRELED INTO THE EERIE DARKNESS OF THE PASS...
H...HOLY JUMPIN' HANNAH! WHOA!
WHAT TH...? THIS IS ONE FLY THAT AIN'T COMIN' INTO YORE PARLOR, MISTER!
THEY ALL COME IN SOONER OR LATER!
YOU PICKED A NEW WAY TO DRY GULCH A STAGE, BUT IT WON'T WORK THIS TIME!
WHRAM!

THAR AIN'T NOTHIN' LIKE A LITTLE GUN SMOKE TO BRING OUT A NEST OF RATTLERS! WAL, NOW YOU'RE ALL HERE WE MIGHT AS WELL START MAKIN' OUR PLAYS!
QUIT SHOOTIN', YUH SLAVERIN' MOUTHED MORONS! I'LL TAKE HIM MYSELF... UUUGH!
I'LL GET YOU FOR THAT! YORE BONES WILL BE ROTTIN' HERE LONG AFTER THE BUZZARDS HAVE PICKED 'EM CLEAN!
MEBBE SO! IT'S A CINCH NO SELF-RESPECT'N BUZZARD WOULD SINK HIS BEAK IN YORE ROTTEN CARCASS!
GET HIM BEFORE HE REACHES THAT WALL! SHOOT HIM DOWN! SHOOT...SHOOT!
NOW, IF I CAN SHOOT THAT OTHER END OFF, THE SHERIFF WILL HAVE A FINE NET OF FISH FER HIS CLINK!
WHRAM! WHRAM!
BEGINNER'S LUCK, I RECKON! NEVER HAD SUCH FINE FISHIN' IN MY LIFE!
SPIDER KANE AN' HIS GUNNIES! BOYS, THE FIRST MAN MAKES A MOVE TO GO AFTER THAT OUTLAW IS GO'N TO GET A BACKSIDE FULL OF NUMBER THREE BUCKSHOT! I LOVE THAT KID COLT, SO HELP ME!

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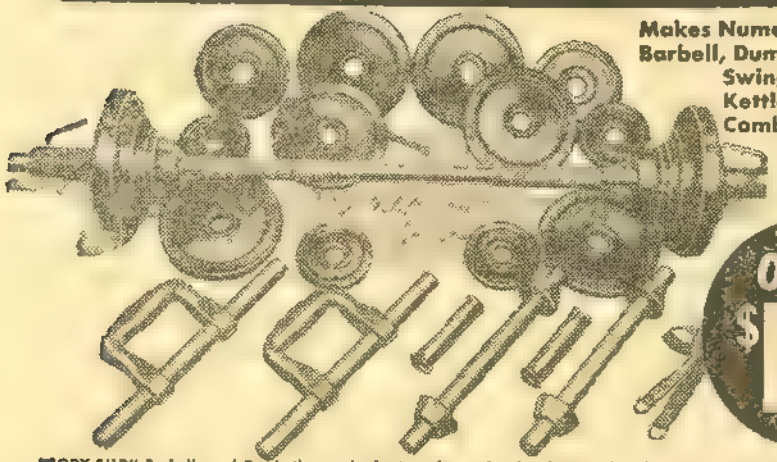

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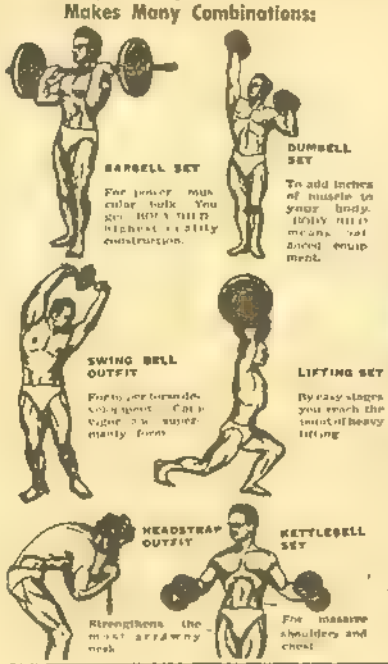

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THE DOUBLE-DOUBLE CROSS!

THE LIVING ROOM of the Bar O ranch was overcrowded with a large group of men. Some of them were sitting on chairs and stools while others were standing. They were all listening attentively to George Pintard, owner of the ranch, and self appointed leader of the men. He had a high, narrow forehead, a long thin nose, rather fleshy at the tip and a mild expression on his round face.

"The time has come," he half shouted, "for us to decide whether or not we are going to let Fred Gaus and his gang run the town and extort money from us. We outnumber them two to one and we are better armed than they are. I say that we ought to march into the town and take the law into our own hands. Yesterday they killed Sheriff Walsh in cold blood. Are we men of the West or just spineless little lambs? The time for action is now! Tomorrow may be too late!"

There was a loud roar of approval from the throats of the many ranchers who had gathered for this meeting. They were tired of seeing the crooked element running things. One middle-aged rancher voiced his sentiments. "Look what those Vigilantes in Virginia City did! All they needed was some rope and they cleaned up the town with its crooked gamblers and gun-slingers." Again the men roared in approval.

A typical Westerner, with keen eyes, square jaw, rather large and rawboned, edged his way through the crowd till he faced George Pintard. There was a marshal's badge on his vest and his gun belt hung low on his hip. He spoke slowly and clearly as though he wanted each word to count. "The Government wants Fred Gaus and his men for a variety of crimes. He's sold liquor to the Indians on the reservation. We know he was behind the gun running on the border. And he mixed up with a counterfeit gang that has been passing National Bank Notes near Fort Worth. Gaus and his boys can turn Lawson City into an armed fort and slaughter you like pigs in the pen. I can use soldiers from Fort Davis if necessary. Why have unnecessary bloodshed? My advice is for you to go home and cool down."

There was a roar of disapproval from most of the men. Those who were silent knew of the marshal's record and that he was capable of handling any situation. The law officer left the room and went to the hitching rail. He mounted his chestnut stallion and was about to go on his way when old Pete Corning came out. "Wait a minute, Marshal, I want to ride a bit of the way with you. Something on my mind." Pintard held his horse in check until Pete was on his own mount and at his side.

"I saw the way you handled Jim Heath and his boys in Los Almos. Yes, sir! I know if it can be done without bloodshed, you're the man to do it. Having a bartender put knock out drops in their drinks and you getting Jim and his boys stretched out on the floor without any gunplay. That's smart thinkin' according to the way I reckon."

A little smile began to play over the lips of the marshal. Then he laughed as the two rode side by side. "Puzzles me why Pintard is so anxious for gunplay. Does he want the ranchers killed? Or does he want to get rid of Gaus and his gang? I won't risk soldiers to do the job. I think I can capture the entire town without spilling a bit of human blood."

Pete's two small brown eyes almost doubled in size as he heard that last statement. "Well, I'll be darned!" And then he added as an afterthought," If any man kin do it, then you're

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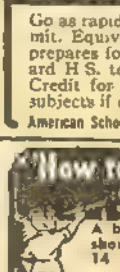

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...CONTINUED

the man." The two men rode up to Clay Creek and then parted. Pete to go on to his small ranch and the law-officer to prepare to carry out his idea.

Fred Gaus looked at the big imported clock that hung on the wall of his office. He was a man about forty-five, heavy in frame, with brown hair and a thick brown moustache. He spoke to his friend, who had been on many a train and bank raiding job. "In about two hours Pintard and the ranchers will start for the town. We just sit here and wait till they come. They haven't any idea that we have lined the walls of our buildings with stones. We got a fortress here. Pintard will lead them right up to us for the slaughter." Cyrus Sharkey grinned and his ugly face only looked the more hideous. "Only us two know that Pintard is the boss. Smart man he is! We kill those ranchers in self-defence. And he'll be able to use all that Government land for himself. And then pick up their stock for a song!"

Half heartedly the ranchers were riding behind Pintard, headed for the showdown with Gaus and his gang. Somehow their desire for hot lead had cooled. They weren't afraid of fighting but they knew the marshal wasn't just doing nothing. What idea was in that mind of his? They crossed the creek and were about to go through Elbow Pass when they were stopped by a group of mounted soldiers.

Captain Stuart Bender, in command, explained matters. "You men are to remain here until I tell you to move. And don't get any idea of trying some shooting. I have two Gatling guns just above you. Lawson City is going to be handled without your aid. However, you are going to stay here and see the fun!"

The ranchers became conscious of a thundering noise in the distance as well as what looked like a cloud of dust. As the specks came closer, one of the ranchers shouted, "buffalo!"

Suddenly Marshal Henry James appeared on his horse. "Out of the way of those buffalo! And don't try any shooting. Just wait and see for yourself what is going to happen!"

The tremendous herd went right through the pass. They were being driven by a group of mounted Indians from the reservation. Pintard realized in his crafty mind what was going to happen and started to ride away when one of the soldiers checked him.

The thundering herd smashed right into town. The pine walls of most of the buildings on main street gave way as though they were just match boxes. The stone reinforcements collapsed as the buffalos hit the buildings. And rifle and revolver shots only caused the animals to do more damage.

In half an hour it was all over. The bleeding and bruised men of Gaus' gang surrendered without a protest to the marshal and some of the soldiers who accompanied him. Then Marshal James spoke alone with Gaus who later mounted his horse and went back with him as prisoner.

The ranchers knew something was in the air and listened carefully as the law officer spoke. "Pintard is the brains behind Gaus and his gang. But only Gaus and Cyrus knew about it. This was going to be a *double* double-cross. He was going to throw sticks of dynamite and kill those two men. For the gang had orders not to kill Pintard. When you were killed he was going to get your property."

Pintard went for his Colt but missed by a fraction of a second as a bullet from the marshal's gun crashed through his gun arm.

"Now you ranchers return home. Pintard will get what is coming to him. I found the bill of lading for the dynamite in the rubbish pile outside his ranch.

THE END #8479

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Mail this coupon with only $1 for your Spot Reducer on approval. Pay postman $8.95 plus delivery—or send $9.95 (full price) and we ship postage prepaid. Use it for ten days in your own home. Then if not delighted return Spot Reducer for full purchase price refund. Don't delay! You have nothing to lose—except ugly, embarrassing, undesirable pounds of FAT. MAIL COUPON NOW!

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MUSCULAR ACHES:

A handy helper for transient relief of discomforts that can be aided by gentle, relaxing massage.

LOSE WEIGHT OR NO CHARGE

USED BY EXPERTS

Thousands have lost weight this way — in hips, abdomen, legs, arms, necks, buttocks, etc. The same method used by stage, screen and radio personalities and leading reducing salons. The Spot Reducer can be used in your spare time in the privacy of your own room.

ORDER IT TODAY!

SENT ON APPROVAL—MAIL COUPON NOW!

SPOT REDUCER CO., Dept. B268
318 Market St., Newark, New Jersey

Please send me the Standard Model SPOT REDUCER for 10 days trial period. I enclose $1.00, upon arrival I will pay postman only $8.95 plus postage and handling. If not delighted I may return SPOT REDUCER within 10 days for prompt refund of full purchase price.

☐ I enclose $12.95. Send DeLux Model, postage pre-paid.

Name _____

Address _____

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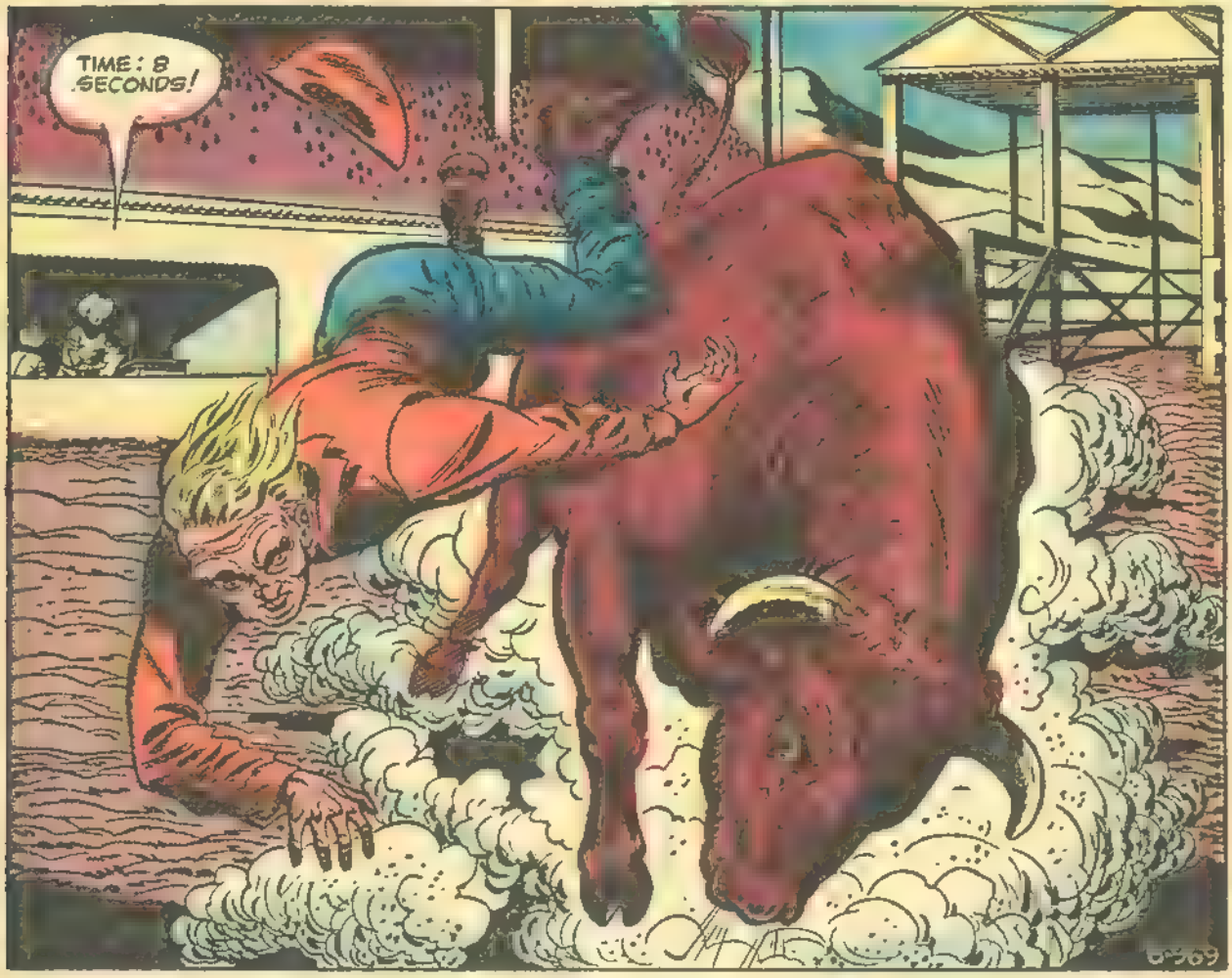
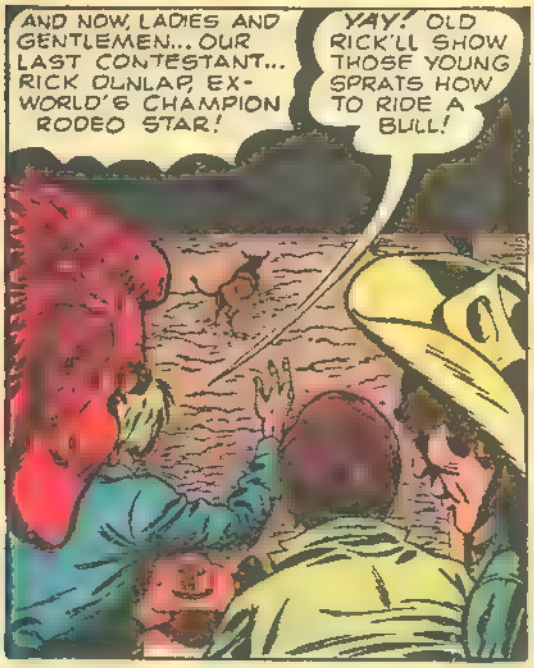
☐ SAVE POSTAGE—check here if you enclose $10.95 for DeLux Model. We pay all postage and handling charges. Same money back guarantee applies.

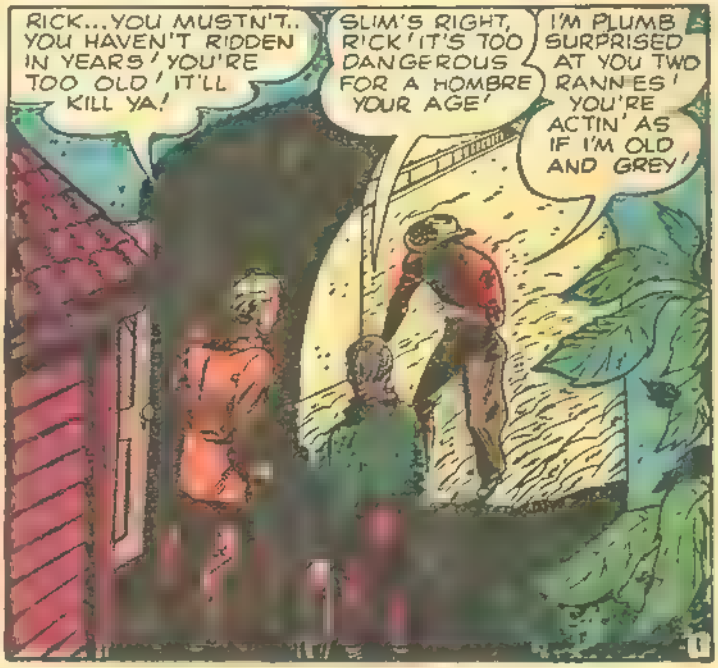
☐ I enclose $9.95. Send Standard Model.

LOSE WEIGHT OR NO CHARGE

NO TURNING BACK




AND NOW, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN... OUR LAST CONTESTANT... RICK DUNLAP, EX-WORLD'S CHAMPION RODEO STAR!
YAY! OLD RICK'LL SHOW THOSE YOUNG SPRATS HOW TO RIDE A BULL!


RICK... YOU MUSTN'T.. YOU HAVEN'T RIDDEN IN YEARS! YOU'RE TOO OLD! IT'LL KILL YA!
SLIM'S RIGHT, RICK! IT'S TOO DANGEROUS FOR A HOMBRE YOUR AGE!
I'M PLUMB SURPRISED AT YOU TWO RANNIES! YOU'RE ACTIN' AS IF I'M OLD AND GREY!

SLIM, YOU KNOW YOU'LL NEVER WALK AGAIN UNLESS I CAN RAISE A THOUSAND DOLLARS FER YOUR OPERATION! AND THE FIRST PRIZE HERE TODAY IS A THOUSAND DOLLARS!
YOU DON'T HAVE TA DO IT, RICK... JUS' 'CAUSE I'M YER BROTHER!
LET HIM BE, SLIM! IT'S THE WAY HE WANTS IT!
LOOK AT RICK DUNLAP! HE WAS A SHOW-OFF YEARS AGO... AND HE HASN'T CHANGED SINCE!
AW, RICK'S OKAY! IT TAKES GUTS TO RIDE A BULL AT RICK'S AGE!
IT DOESN'T TAKE GUTS!... JUST STUPIDITY!
LOOK... HE'S GONNA START!
LET 'ER RIP!
GO ON, FELLA .. GET ALL THE HATE AND ORNERINESS OUTTA YER SYSTEM... BUT I'LL RIDE YA IF IT KILLS ME!
LOOK! HE'S HANGIN' ON!
YEAH.. BUT DO YA KNOW WHAT A BULL LIKE THAT CAN DO TO A RIDER WHO AIN'T YOUNG ENOUGH TO COPE WITH 'IM?

I'M STICKIN', BULL... THERE'S NO TURNIN' BACK FOR ME NOW!
SLIM'S GONNA HAVE THAT OPERATION IF I HAVETA STAY ON YA TILL JUDGMENT DAY!
LOOK AT 'IM! HE RIDES LIKE HE'S PART OF THAT BULL!
IT'S PROBABLY A TAME BULL!
MY BACK...FEELS LIKE IT'S SPLITTING IN TWO...I CAN'T LAST MUCH LONGER!
JUST ANOTHER FEW SECONDS... GOT TO GET SLIM HIS OPERATION!
RICK...RICK... GIVE UP! JUMP OFF! HE'LL KILL YA, RICK!
NO USE, SLIM! YA CAIN'T GET THAT HOMBRE TO QUIT WHEN THERE'S A BREATH IN HIM!
CONTINUED AFTER NEXT PAGE...

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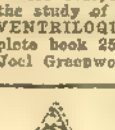

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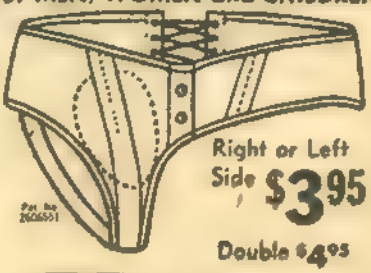
For MEN, WOMEN and CHILDREN



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10 DAY TRIAL OFFER
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Please send my RUPTURE-EASER by return mail
Right Side ☐ $3.95 Measure around lowest part
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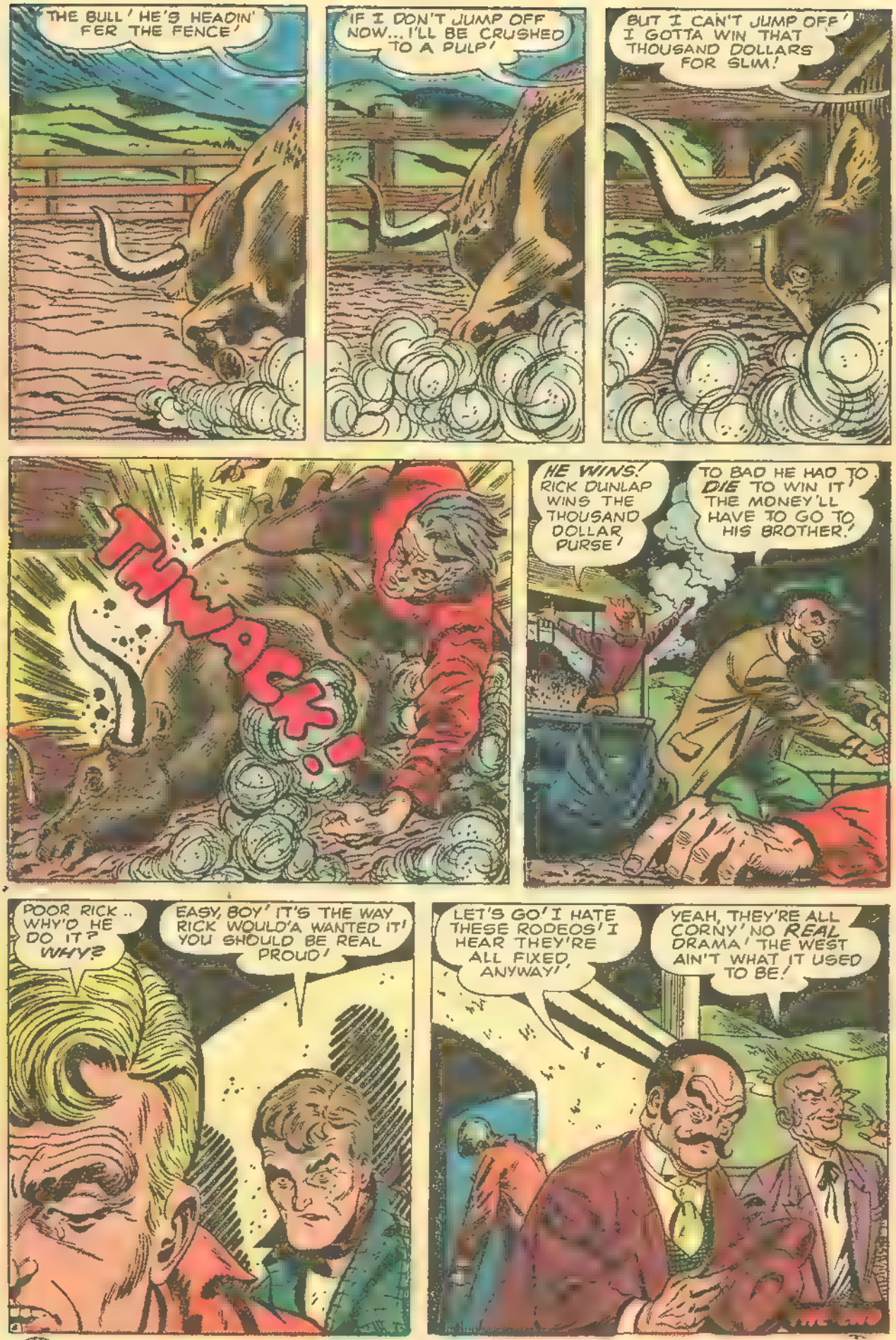
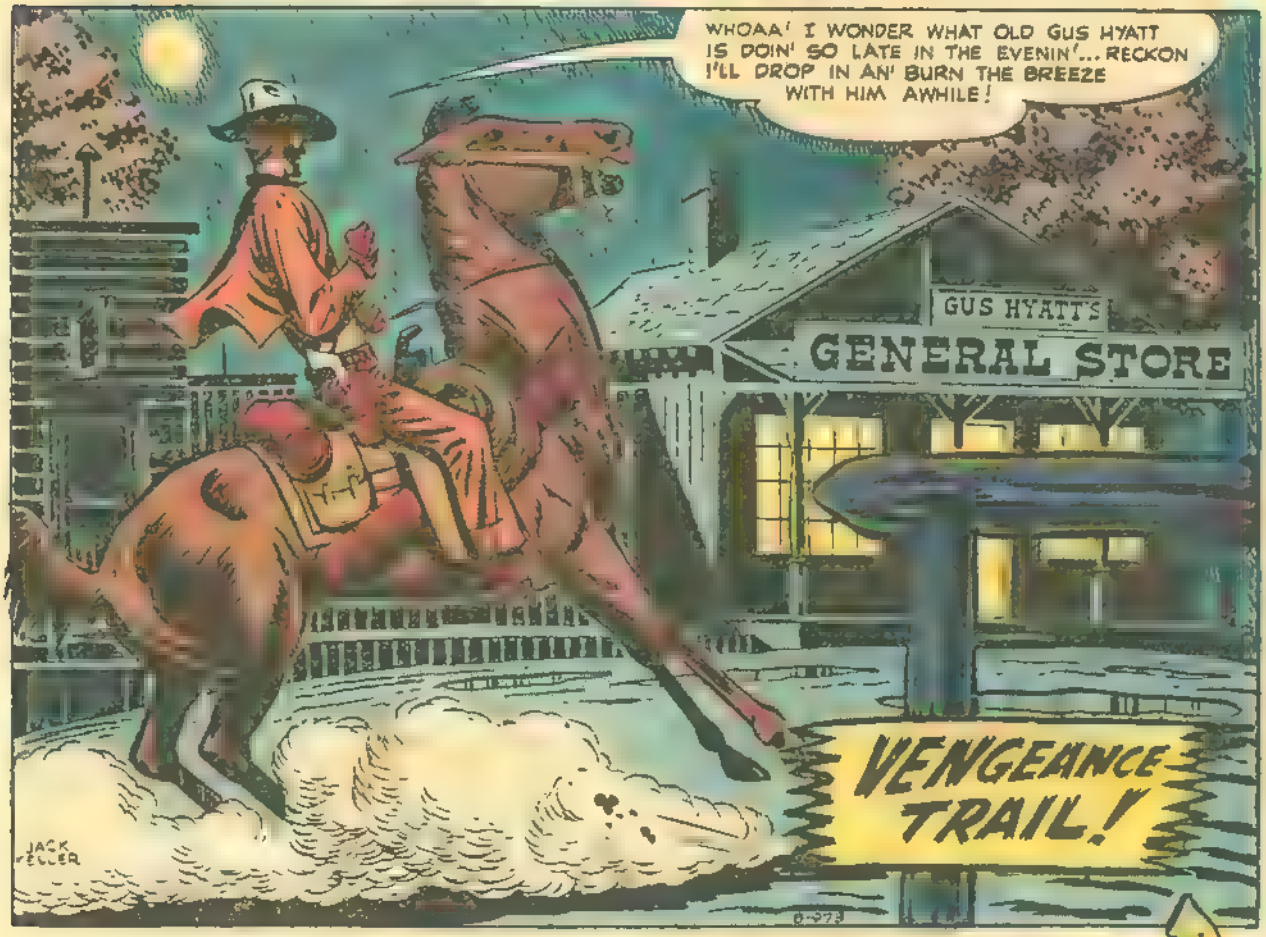
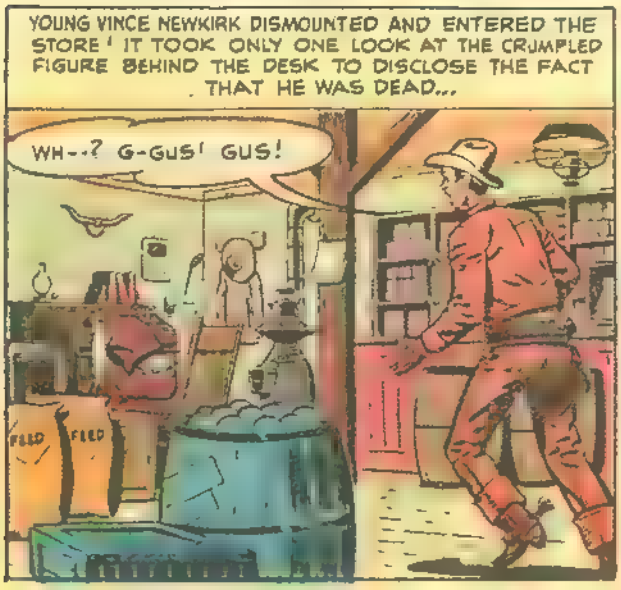
Enclosed is: ☐ Money Order ☐ Check for $_____
☐ Send COD Be sure to give size and side
Name _____
Address _____
City and State _____
RUSH THIS COUPON NOW!


THE BULL! HE'S HEADIN' FER THE FENCE!
IF I DON'T JUMP OFF NOW... I'LL BE CRUSHED TO A PULP!
BUT I CAN'T JUMP OFF! I GOTTA WIN THAT THOUSAND DOLLARS FOR SLIM!
TWACK!
HE WINS! RICK DUNLAP WINS THE THOUSAND DOLLAR PURSE!
TO BAD HE HAD TO DIE TO WIN IT! THE MONEY'LL HAVE TO GO TO HIS BROTHER!
POOR RICK.. WHY'D HE DO IT? WHY?
EASY, BOY! IT'S THE WAY RICK WOULD'A WANTED IT! YOU SHOULD BE REAL PROUD!
LET'S GO! I HATE THESE RODEOS! I HEAR THEY'RE ALL FIXED, ANYWAY!
YEAH, THEY'RE ALL CORNY! NO REAL DRAMA! THE WEST AIN'T WHAT IT USED TO BE!

ATLAS FOR THE BEST IN WESTERN THRILLS LOOK FOR THE ATLAS SEAL ON THE COVER! ATLAS

KID COLT OUTLAW

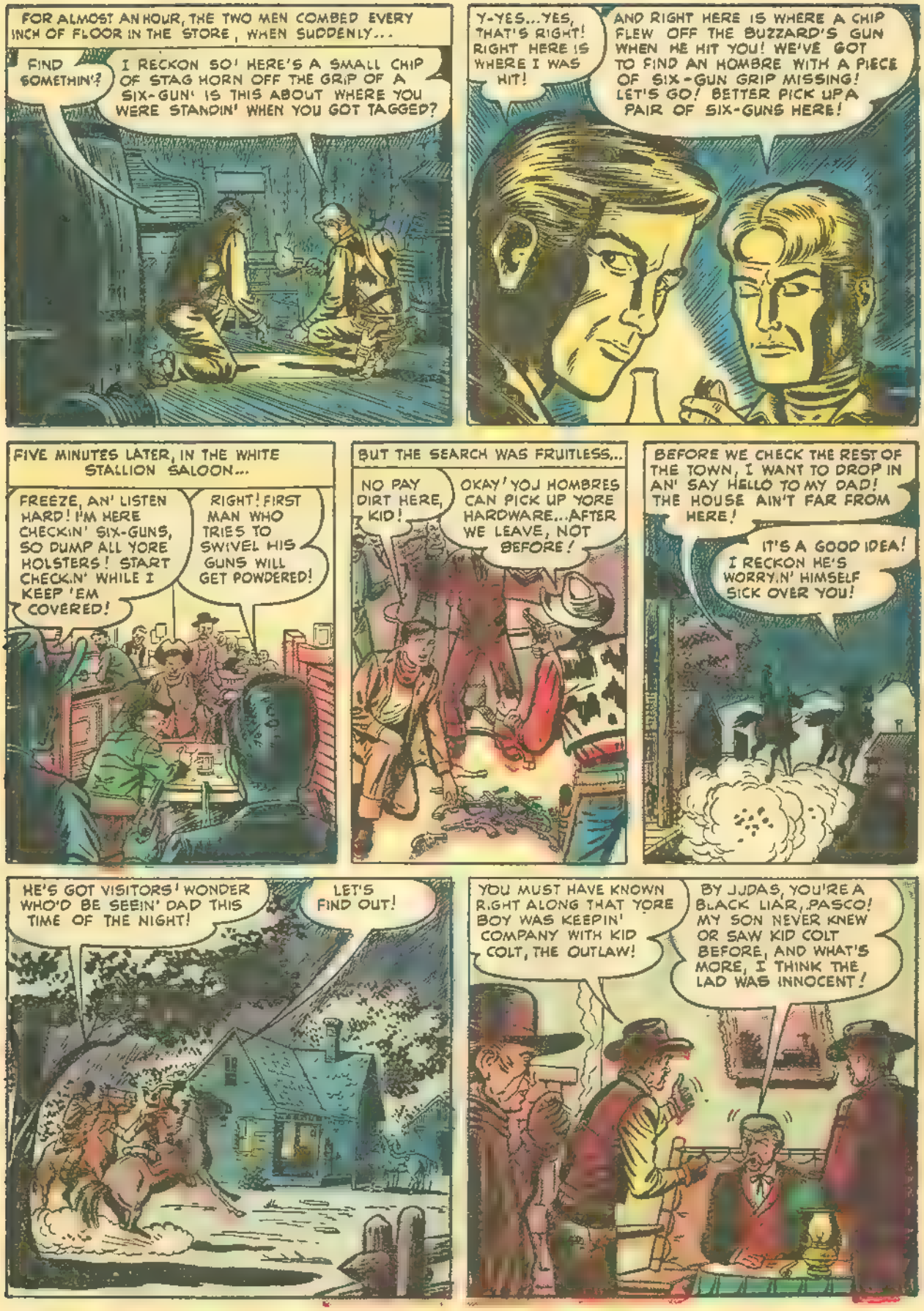

WHOAA! I WONDER WHAT OLD GUS HYATT IS DOIN' SO LATE IN THE EVENIN'... RECKON I'LL DROP IN AN' BURN THE BREEZE WITH HIM AWHILE!
GUS HYATT'S
GENERAL STORE
VENGEANCE TRAIL!
JACK KELLER


YOUNG VINCE NEWKIRK DISMOUNTED AND ENTERED THE STORE! IT TOOK ONLY ONE LOOK AT THE CRUMPLED FIGURE BEHIND THE DESC TO DISCLOSE THE FACT . THAT HE WAS DEAD...
WH--? G-GUS! GUS!
FEED
FEED

CONSCIOUSNESS LEFT VINCE NEWKIRK UNDER THE CRUSHING IMPACT OF A VICIOUS BLOW...
THE SHERIFF WON'T BE HEARIN' YUH FOR QUITE A SPELL, AMIGO!
COME ON! LET'S GET OUT OF HERE WITH THE LOOT BEFORE SOME OTHER NOSEY CRITTER COMES AMBLING ALONG!
SHUT UP! I'M RUNNIN' THIS SHOW! IT'S A GOOD THING THIS RANNY HAPPENED ALONG! HE'LL SWING FER THE KILLING OF GUS HYATT! JUST WATCH AN' SEE!
GET THE GUN OUT OF HIS HOLSTER AN' STICK IT IN HIS HAND! DUMP SOME OF THAT LOOT INTO A SMALL BAG AN' GIVE IT TO ME!
HEY, WAIT A MINUTE! THIS AIN'T THE TIME OR PLACE TO DIVVY UP THE HAUL!
SOMEDAY YOU'RE GOIN' TO LEARN TO KEEP YORE MOUTH SHUT! DO LIKE I SAID OR YORE CARCASS WILL BE LAYIN' HERE WITH THE REST!
VINCE NEWKIRK STAGGERED TO HIS FEET A FEW MINUTES LATER, HIS HEAD REELING IN AN AGONY OF PAIN...
OHH... MY H-HEAD! WH-WHAT H-HAPPENED! I...
NEWKIRK! DROP THAT GUN! WHAT'S GOIN' ON HERE? WHAT DID YOU DO?
WHAT? W-WHO, ME? ER, I DON'T KNOW! I WAS PASSING B-BY AND...
HYATT'S DEAD AS A DOORNAIL, SHERIFF! LOOKS LIKE WE CAUGHT NEWKIRK RED-HANDED!
HYATT... DEAD? NEWKIRK, I'M HOLDIN' YOU FOR THE MURDER OF GUS HYATT!

MORNING CAME AND WITH IT THE RELENTLESS, GRINDING FORCE OF A LAW WHICH EITHER FREED OR KILLED ITS VICTIMS...
HAVE THE PRISONER STAND WHILE THE JURY RENDERS ITS VERDICT!
ON YORE FEET, NEWKIRK!
HAVE YOU REACHED A VERDICT?
WE SHORE HAVE, YORE HONOR! WE FIND THE ACCUSED GUILTY AS CHARGED!
VINCENT NEWKIRK, YOU HAVE BEEN FOUND GUILTY OF MURDER AND ROBBERY, AND BY THE POWERS VESTED IN ME IT IS MY DUTY TO CONDEMN YOU TO DEATH BY HANGING!
Y-YOUR HONOR! DAD... DAD, I'M INNOCENT! I SWEAR I'M INNOCENT! DON'T LET THEM DO THIS TO ME!
S-SON... MY LITTLE BOY! WHAT CAN I SAY OR DO? WOULD THAT IT WERE MY OWN USELESS LIFE TO BE FORFEITED INSTEAD OF YOURS! I'M H-HELPLESS, SON... HELPLESS!
COME ON, NEWKIRK! LET'S GET IT OVER WITH!
MINUTES LATER...
OKAY, NEWKIRK! KEEP YORE HOSS STEADY! IT'LL BE OVER IN A MINUTE!
SUDDENLY...
MOVE THAT HORSE OF YOURS, AMIGO! BREAK LOOSE WHILE I COVER YOU!
WH--? GIDDAP, REX!

MISTER, I HEARD THE ANGELS SINGIN' AT ABOUT THE TIME YOU SHOWED UP! THANKS!
I COULD HAVE BUSTED YOU LOOSE BACK IN THE COURT-HOUSE, BUT I FIGGERED THEM LAW-MEN WOULD HOLLER LOUDER IF I TOOK THEIR CAKE AWAY JUST AS THEY WAS ABOUT TO EAT IT!
WRAM!
WHRAM!
TEN MINUTES LATER, IN A HIDDEN MESA...
I SORT OF REMEMBER HEARIN' A FAMILIAR VOICE, AN' THEN EVERY-THING WENT BLACK! IF YOU WERE IN THE COURTROOM YOU KNOW THE REST!
THAT SHERIFF SHORE HAD A HEAP OF POWERFUL EVIDENCE STACKED UP AGIN' YOU, BUT NONE OF IT RANG TRUE TO ME! THAT'S WHY I SLIPPED YOU FROM UNDER THE NOOSE!
IT STANDS TO REASON THAT IF I WAS PART OF THE GANG THAT KILLED AN' ROBBED GUS HYATT, THEY WOULDN'T HAVE LEFT ME THERE WITH A SACKFUL OF MONEY!
WAL, THE SHERIFF HAD IT FIGGERED THAT YOU AN' THE OTHERS HAD A RUCKUS OVER SPLITTING THE LOOT, THAT'S WHY IT HAPPENED! BUT THAT DON'T MAKE SENSE EITHER!
YOU SAY YOU REMEMBER A MAN'S VOICE?
THAT'S RIGHT! I SWEAR I KNOW THAT VOICE FROM SOMEWHERES! I HEARD HIM SAY... "THE SHERIFF WON'T BE HEARIN' YUH..." AN' THEN I BLACKED OUT!
COME ON, HENKIRK! WE'RE HEADIN' BACK TO TOWN! I WANT TO SEE THE INSIDE OF GUS HYATT'S STORE TONIGHT!
I'LL TELL YOU SOMETHING, KID! I WOULDN'T GO BACK INTO THAT TOWN WITH ANY-BODY ELSE BUT YOU!
LATE THAT EVENING..
THERE'S A SMALL OIL LAMP ON HYATT'S DESK! BETTER SHADE IT WITH PAPER!
WHAT ARE WE GOIN TO LOOK FOR, KID?
ANYTHING AN' EVERYTHING! THERE CAN'T BE A RUMPUS LIKE THE ONE YOU GOT MIXED UP WITH HERE WITHOUT SOMEONE LEAVIN' MORE THAN JUST A HAZY TRACK!
4


FOR ALMOST AN HOUR, THE TWO MEN COMBED EVERY INCH OF FLOOR IN THE STORE, WHEN SUDDENLY...
FIND SOMETHIN'?
I RECKON SO! HERE'S A SMALL CHIP OF STAG HORN OFF THE GRIP OF A SIX-GUN! IS THIS ABOUT WHERE YOU WERE STANDIN' WHEN YOU GOT TAGGED?
Y-YES...YES, THAT'S RIGHT! RIGHT HERE IS WHERE I WAS HIT!
AND RIGHT HERE IS WHERE A CHIP FLEW OFF THE BUZZARD'S GUN WHEN HE HIT YOU! WE'VE GOT TO FIND AN HOMBRE WITH A PIECE OF SIX-GUN GRIP MISSING! LET'S GO! BETTER PICK UP A PAIR OF SIX-GUNS HERE!
FIVE MINUTES LATER, IN THE WHITE STALLION SALOON...
FREEZE, AN' LISTEN HARD! I'M HERE CHECKIN' SIX-GUNS, SO DUMP ALL YORE HOLSTERS! START CHECK.N' WHILE I KEEP 'EM COVERED!
RIGHT! FIRST MAN WHO TRIES TO SWIVEL HIS GUNS WILL GET POWDERED!
BUT THE SEARCH WAS FRUITLESS...
NO PAY DIRT HERE, KID!
OKAY! YOJ HOMBRES CAN PICK UP YORE HARDWARE...AFTER WE LEAVE, NOT BEFORE!
BEFORE WE CHECK THE REST OF THE TOWN, I WANT TO DROP IN AN' SAY HELLO TO MY DAD! THE HOUSE AIN'T FAR FROM HERE!
IT'S A GOOD IDEA! I RECKON HE'S WORRY.N' HIMSELF SICK OVER YOU!
HE'S GOT VISITORS! WONDER WHO'D BE SEEIN' DAD THIS TIME OF THE NIGHT!
LET'S FIND OUT!
YOU MUST HAVE KNOWN RIGHT ALONG THAT YORE BOY WAS KEEPIN' COMPANY WITH KID COLT, THE OUTLAW!
BY JJDAS, YOU'RE A BLACK LIAR, PASCO! MY SON NEVER KNEW OR SAW KID COLT BEFORE, AND WHAT'S MORE, I THINK THE LAD WAS INNOCENT!

PASCO, KEEP YORE DIRTY HANDS OFF MY FATHER!
WH--?! K-KID COLT! AN' VINCE NEWKIRK!
I RECOGNIZE THAT VOICE OF YOURS NOW, PASCO! YOU'RE THE DIRTY, SNEAK N' BUZZARD WHO BUSHWHACKED ME IN HYATT'S STORE! YOU'RE THE MAN WHO KILLED HIM!
WHRAM! WHRAM!
THAT'S RIGHT! YOU'LL NEVER LIVE TO TELL IT TO A JURY THOUGH, NEWKIRK! NEITHER WILL YORE OLD MAN! ONE MOVE AN' I'LL PLUG HIM THRU THE SPINE!
SHORE, I KILLED HYATT AN' TOOK THE COUNTY FUNDS, TOO! DON'T MOVE, EITHER ONE OF YUH! IF YUH DO, THE OLD MAN DIES!
DUCK, JUDGE!
WHRAM!
WHRAM!
CHECK HIS GUN, JUST TO MAKE SURE! I'VE GOT THE MISSING CHIP IN MY POCKET HERE!
FITS LIKE A "T"!
I FIGGERED IT WOULD! WAL, I'LL BE MOVIN' ALONG! RECKON YOU TWO HAVE A LOT TO TALK ABOUT!
WE OWE OUR LIVES TO HIM, DAD, AN' SOMEDAY I AIM TO PAY BACK THE DEBT!
HE'LL GET NOTHING BUT A SMILE AND BEST WISHES IN ANY COURT I EVER RULE OVER!
THE END

ATLAS FOR THE BEST IN WESTERN THRILLS LOOK FOR THE ATLAS SEAL ON THE COVER! ATLAS

THE COMPLETE BARBERSHOP JOKE BOOK
THE COMPLETE TRAVELING SALESMAN JOKE BOOK
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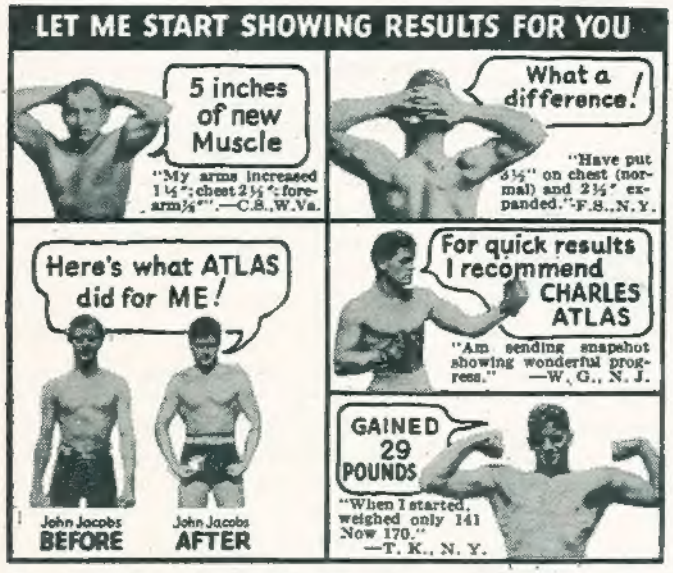
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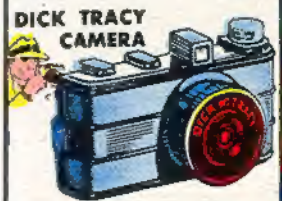

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